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Still no clue on Palme's killer

STOCKHOLM (Reuters). — Sweden's new leader said yesterday the authorities still had no clue as to the nationality of Olof Palme's killer or his motive, three days after the unescorted prime minister was shot dead in central Stockholm.

He could be a Swede or from some other country, Acting Premier Ingvar Carlsson told a news conference. Asked why Palme was killed, he replied: "I wish I knew."

Swedish police retreated behind a wall of silence yesterday as fears grew that the assassin, who trailed Palme all Friday evening before shooting him on the capital's main street, may have vanished without a trace.

The unusual copper-tipped bullets used in the shooting, a vague description of the killer by Palme's wife Lisbeth, and the testimony of a dozen witnesses are the best clues the police have to work on.

The murder weapon, which police say was a Smith and Wesson Magnum, has not been found.

An international news agency yesterday received a second telephone call claiming responsibility for the murder by the Holger Meins commando, the caller said: "The attack was in retaliation for the Swedish government's stand during the siege of the West German embassy in Stockholm in 1975 and the subsequent outcome against two of our group."

President Chaim Herzog was among the first on Sunday morning to sign the condolence book in memory of Olof Palme at the Swedish Embassy in Tel Aviv. Prime Minister Shimon Peres is to sign the book today. Among the scores of Israelis who came to sign the condolence book was veteran Labour leader Yitzhak Ben-Aharon.



Caroline Kennedy, daughter of the late president John F. Kennedy, is to marry her long-time boyfriend, Edwin Arthur Schlossberg, her mother, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, announced yesterday. (Reuters)

Troubled Solel Boneh advised to dismiss 3,200 workers

By AVI TEMKIN and ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporters

A joint Treasury-Histadrut team, which examined the financial situation of Solel Boneh, has recommended that the construction company dismiss 3,200 workers.

The team suggested that part of their severance pay should be in the form of company bonds. It also proposed that Solel Boneh enlarge its capital and pledge Shikun Ovdim shares that it holds as further collateral for its debts.

The head of the team, Treasury budget department head Aaron Fogel, yesterday presented the recommendation to Prime Minister Peres.

The labour federation already has reservations about three of the recommendations, those dealing with the number of dismissals, with the payment of bonds as severance pay, and with the structure of the future board of directors.

The employees will oppose the proposed retrenchment of some 3,200 workers, the head of the company's largest works committee told The Jerusalem Post last night.

Shmuel Ben-David, whose umbrella committee represents the bulk of the company's 10,000 permanent workers, said that "those who throw out numbers like that don't understand what they're talking about. These are people with jobs, not members of a football crowd."

The heads of the company's 10 works committees are due to meet today to choose their three representatives on a joint committee with the management and Hevrat Ha'Ovdim that will oversee the implementation of the recovery programme. Establishment of the joint committee was decided yesterday at a meeting between the works committee heads and Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar.

In its concluding remarks, the team's report says no money should be spent from the budget on the company. The report states that the government can authorize Solel Boneh to raise loans in Israel and abroad on condition that the recommendations are fulfilled.

Following are some of the main recommendations:

- Solel Boneh should be organized on the basis of financially independent incorporated firms. Units that lose money should be sold.

- Company management will develop standards for accepting projects, based on profit and cash flow considerations. Solel Boneh will not start projects on its own resources, but will operate only on orders from clients.

The team found that one reason for the company's financial troubles was that it initiated projects, not on the basis of profit criteria, but to provide work to its different units.

- Solel Boneh will dismiss 2,200 tenured workers in the next six months, as stated in its own recovery plan. But it will have to fire 1,000 more workers by mid-1987.

- Severance pay above the minimum required by law will be paid in company bonds. The minimum company

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

NY blocks sale of Marcos properties

NEW YORK (AFP). — The New York State Supreme Court has ordered the blocking of all transactions on five pieces of U.S. real estate owned by ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, a U.S. lawyer representing Manila's interests here said yesterday.

New York State Supreme Court Judge Elliot Wilk Sunday night ordered the block on sales of four buildings in New York City and a piece of property in Long Island, near the city.

The Centre for Constitutional Rights is representing Manila here in its effort to recover government assets which Marcos allegedly embezzled.

The nudity stays in Oh! Calcutta

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The nudity in the musical *Oh! Calcutta!* will remain. The Film and Stage Censorship Board has approved the musical with only six "minor" changes, which do not alter the spirit and gist of the play, its producers announced gleefully yesterday.

The musical, with its Broadway cast, will open on March 29 at Tel Aviv's Dekel Theatre, before going to Haifa, Beer-Sheva and Jerusalem. The show has been running on Broadway for the past 17 years, and has been performed in 15 different countries before an estimated 86 million people.

"We were impressed by the maturity and understanding of the Censorship Board's members. They were very patient and understand-

ing," the musical's New York producer Norman Kean said yesterday. The six changes proposed by the producers and accepted by the Censorship Board are:

- No body-contact between two dancers at the end of a nude ballet scene. Kean has agreed to dim the lights just before the end of the scene.

- The omission of the "Love Lust Poem," added in 1976, in which a clothed woman voices her sexual demands, beginning with the words: "I want you to...me."

- The omission of the Jack and Jill scene, in which two people measure their sexual organs. The scene ends with rape. Another more amusing scene has been inserted instead.

- The omission of the Dick'n Jane scene.



The funeral of Zaafer al-Masri in Hebron yesterday turned into a pro-PLO demonstration. (Andre Brummann)

Bill to raise minimum wage beaten narrowly

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Post Knesset Reporter

The controversial minimum wage bill was only narrowly defeated, by 34 votes to 31, yesterday, despite the coalition executive's decision to vote against it.

Twelve coalition members, including five from the Alignment and two from the Likud, voted for the bill. Another two Alignment members abstained.

The bill was sponsored by 62 MKs, including many from the Alignment and the Likud. But most voted against their own bill, following Sunday's cabinet decision and yesterday's coalition executive ruling.

Labour and Social Welfare Minister Moshe Katsav showed signs of a split personality when he gave all the reasons for a minimum wage law, and then asked the House to reject the bill.

"It is said that this is a matter in which the government should not interfere," Katsav said. "But we're talking only about the lowest wage. There will be plenty for the Histadrut and the employers to work out after we do that."

Katsav said that since 1980, the minimum wage had averaged between 38 and 45 per cent of the average wage in the economy, reaching its nadir last October when it fell 29 per cent. In January, it had been NIS 280, but this month it was due to rise to NIS 315, or an estimated 35 per cent of the average wage.

The bill would have set the minimum wage at 50 per cent of the average wage. But Katsav implied that the government would never agree to such a high figure.

"We're talking about raising the (Continued on back page)

Peres, Shamir meet, but dispute remains

Post Political Staff
TEL AVIV. — Likud and Labour Party sources agreed last night that the inter-party dispute over the means of implementing economic growth would remain unresolved until after the Herut convention next week.

Prime Minister Peres and Vice Premier Shamir again failed to reach agreement on the division of economic responsibility during a meeting yesterday. Shamir reiterated the position of the Likud ministers that the establishment of a ministerial growth committee, as demanded by

Peres, would usurp the authority of Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i.

The transfer of powers from the finance minister to the committee and to Peres would be unprecedented and would humiliate the finance minister, the Likud sources said.

In a discussion with the Labour Knesset caucus after his meeting with Shamir, Peres said that he would continue to insist on the establishment of the growth committee, but he cautioned that he had not set any time limit for reaching an agreement.

Palestinians back off as mayoral candidates

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT and RON JOURARD

Two prominent pro-Jordanians yesterday withdrew their candidacies for the mayoralties of West Bank towns in the wake of the assassination of appointed Nablus Mayor Zaafer al-Masri.

Nadim Zaro, an ex-Jordanian minister, had been expected to apply to the Israeli authorities for the mayoral appointment in Ramallah, and Walid Mustafa Hamad had already asked for the post in Al-Bireh.

The assassination has also led to the shelving of plans for a delegation of senior pro-Jordanian figures to go to Amman to express support for King Hussein following his break with the PLO.

Several hundred West Bankers have already gone to the Jordanian capital to express backing for Hussein. But they were mainly Beduin or villagers who could rely on their

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Man shot dead at refugee camp

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israeli troops yesterday killed a West Bank resident and wounded his son during a clash at the Balata refugee camp near Nablus.

A spokesman at the Rafidiya Hospital in Nablus identified the dead man as Mohammed Mahmud Abu-Daraa, 57, and his 22-year-old son as Mahmud Mohammed Abu-Daraa.

According to Israeli sources, a military patrol was attacked near the refugee camp at 9:50 a.m. Some 30 masked demonstrators burned tyres and stoned the soldiers who shot rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse the crowd.

The soldiers then entered the camp to search for the stone throwers and arrested four people. While they were being led to a vehicle the detainees, joined by others, jumped on the soldiers, who tried to push the crowd back with their guns.

Mohammed Mahmud Abu-Daraa grabbed one of the soldiers by the neck and began choking him.

The patrol commander fired warning shots into the air, but when they did not end the attack, he fired one bullet at the soldier's assailant. The man was taken to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Thousands hail PLO as Masri buried in Nablus

Jerusalem Post Staff

In an outpouring of grief that became a demonstration of solidarity with the PLO, thousands of Nablus residents yesterday followed the coffin of their slain mayor, Zaafer al-Masri, in the largest procession Nablus has seen since Egyptian president Gamal Abdul Nasser died in 1971.

The Israel Defence Forces lifted the curfew imposed on the city after Sunday's shooting and soldiers kept out of sight during the funeral. Most streets were deserted and shops remained closed. They will be shut during the three days of mourning.

The throng included representatives from Jordan and other West Bank towns and villages, municipal leaders, businessmen, and groups representing the city's schools, professional associations and hospitals.

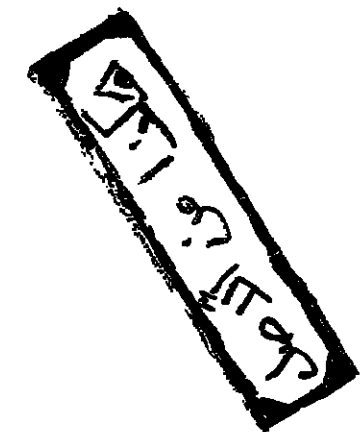
Foreign dignitaries, including the U.S. consul-general in Jerusalem, Morris Draper, also attended the funeral.

Only men were in the funeral procession, but women and children learned from doorways and windows to watch it pass.

A group of youths chanting "with spirit and blood we shall redeem you Abu Hisham" bore al-Masri's plain wooden coffin, draped with the banned Palestinian flag and palm branches, down Nablus's main Faisal Street to the blue-domed Haj Ma'azuz al-Masri mosque.

The crowd followed as the Moslem call to prayer waivered from the mosque's loudspeakers. Many mourners linked arms as they walked, their faces solemn. Others carried black flags and wreaths bearing a portrait of the slain mayor over the words, "Zaafer al-Masri, martyr of nation and duty."

A group of Moslem fundamentalists walked to the beat of a drum and



young men gathered for an impromptu political demonstration, led by a youth carried on the crowd's shoulders. He vowed punishment for al-Masri's killers, and denounced Israeli policy in the territories.

The coffin was carried into the mosque where the body, draped in a blood-stained white shroud, was lifted from the coffin and passed overhead from hand to hand to a cinder-block tomb covered with stone slabs.

The body was placed inside the tomb along with a Palestinian flag, and the crowd showered the tomb with pink and white flowers as men covered the tomb with a stone block.

An informed source indicated yesterday that the man who killed al-Masri on Sunday probably belongs to a squad which has been in the area for many months and has carried out several daring attacks. This emerges from the fact that the murder weapon—a 7.65mm revolver—may have been used in two other recent fatal attacks in the West Bank, the source said.

Peres says killing won't halt policy of devolution

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

Prime Minister Peres said yesterday that even after Sunday's assassination of Zaafer al-Masri, the mayor of Nablus, Israel would not be deterred from further implementing its policy of devolution in the administered areas, and would continue to hand over administrative powers to the residents of Judea and Samaria themselves.

Briefing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Peres said that now was not the time to hold municipal or other elections in Judea and Samaria.


"We must wait till the present turmoil calms down," Peres said. "When the West Bankers are torn between Jordan and the PLO, elections are out of the question."

The prime minister said the Syrian army was steadily building up its strength. "Each time President Assad threatens Israel, we do not need to issue threats in return and compete with him in sabre-rattling," he said. "Our job is to step up our vigilance along the borders."

He said Syria is passing through a very grave economic crisis, as are Jordan and Egypt.

Peres said investment priorities must be directed towards Galilee and the Negev, and no more money must be put into settlement in Judea and Samaria.

"If only a fraction of the huge investments put into Judea and Samaria had been spared for Galilee and the Negev," he said, "they would not be facing the collapse that looms over their villages and development towns today."



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S.A. police kill seven guerrillas

CAPE TOWN (Reuters). — South African police ambushed a group of seven black guerrillas yesterday and shot them dead as they were about to attack a police van near Cape Town, police said.

Police Commissioner Johann Coetzee said in a statement that the dead men were members of the African National Congress (ANC), the main group fighting white rule of South Africa. He said the guerrillas' vehicle was stopped by the police and shooting broke out. One policeman was slightly injured by a grenade thrown by one of the guerrillas.

Meanwhile, the white council of East London in the Eastern Cape has secretly voted in favour of multi-racial residential areas and councillors called yesterday for the landmark decision to be made public.

The weather at major Swissair destinations

| | 3.3.86 | MIN. | MAX. |
|------------|--------|------|------|
| AMSTERDAM | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| BELGIUM | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| BRUSSELS | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| CHICAGO | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| COPENHAGEN | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| FRANKFURT | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| GENEVA | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| HONG KONG | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| JERUSALEM | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| LONDON | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| MADRID | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| MONTREAL | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| NEW YORK | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| OSLO | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| PARIS | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| SAO PAULO | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| STOCKHOLM | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| TOKYO | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| TORONTO | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| VIENNA | -1 | 2 | 24 |
| ZURICH | -1 | 2 | 24 |

peace partner, the Hashemite, by openly questioning the leadership to be recognized by the Palestinians.

In an interview published yesterday, Hussein called on territories to set up a new leadership of peace.

West Bankers and Gazans characterized Arafat, reacting to the interview by the Egyptian weekly *Akher* 242 and 338, says Arafat, remains, victory or death. A territories will not cease.

Whether he meant every word message today. With leaders need enemies.

What Arafat appears to be "armed resistance" is not his

| | | | |
|-------------|----|-------|----|
| Shannon | 26 | 7-21 | 22 |
| Tel Aviv | 30 | 6-22 | 24 |
| B-G Airport | 30 | 6-22 | 24 |
| Jericho | 32 | 9-25 | 26 |
| Gaza | 32 | 10-19 | 21 |
| Beersheva | 38 | 5-23 | 25 |
| Eilat | 22 | 14-20 | 29 |

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Prime Minister Shimon Peres yesterday named the main meeting hall in the Prime Minister's Office after the late Ya'akov Herzog on the 14th anniversary of the death of the former director-general, in the presence of his brother, President Chaim Herzog, and his widow Pinna Herzog. Peres paid tribute to Ya'akov Herzog's unique personality which combined rare political insight, historical perspective and deep roots of Jewish tradition.

Mrs. Eugenia Cordovez Febres Cordero, wife of the president of Ecuador, and Ecuadorian Ambassador Luis Ortiz Teran yesterday visited Beit Heuss, Wizo's Recreation and Stress Counseling Home, where they lunched with World Wizo Executive Chairman Michal Modai and members of the World Wizo Executive.

The wife of Ecuadorian President Leon Febres Cordero, Mrs. Eugenia Febres Cordero, yesterday presented a collection of books by outstanding Ecuadorian authors to the rector of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Prof. Amnon Pazy, as a gift from the government of Ecuador to the Bloomfield Library on the Mount Scopus campus of the university. Also present at the ceremony was the ambassador of Ecuador, Luis Ortiz Teran, who spoke on Ecuadorian literature and culture.

Court orders nurses to cease strike of eight hospitals

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jerusalem District Labour Court yesterday ordered nurses rebelling against their Histadrut union to immediately cease their partial strike of eight hospitals.

The judge said that the group "did not legally represent anybody" and that patients and hospital administrators were being made to suffer as the result of an internal union dispute.

A further discussion of the issue has been set for March 12.

The strikers, who had closed outpatient clinics and forced the postponement of elective surgery in eight government and Histadrut hospitals, have complied with the order.

The back-to-work orders were requested by the Health Ministry, the Hadassah Medical Organization and the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit health fund which at the last moment claimed it was not a party to the dispute.

Teachers to decide Thursday on sanctions

The Secondary School Teachers' Association will decide on Thursday whether to close 12th grade classes, pending the results of a negotiating session with the government earlier in the day.

Yesterday, at a labour court hearing in Jerusalem, the government rescinded its request for an injunction against strike action by the teachers, after the judge hinted that he would not grant the injunction because he suspected deliberate Treasury foot-dragging in the negotiations.

Two SLA men hurt by roadside bomb

Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. - Two members of the South Lebanese Army were wounded yesterday by a roadside bomb hidden near Aishiya, in the northern sector of the security zone.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Eban: Fight for Zionist democracy

By MARK SEGAL
Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. - Abba Eban has urged the public to fight what he calls the concerted bid to push the people of Israel back into the ghetto.

"The dark winds of obscurantism are blowing through the land trying to black out the spirit of democratic Zionism," Eban, a former education and foreign minister, warned at a memorial gathering at Tel Aviv Museum in honour of its founder, Haim Gantzu.

The Alignment Knesset Member called for a stepped-up struggle against "the attempt to impose shackles on the minds and the spirit of our people." He contrasted obscurantist tendencies with the biblical injunction to the people of Israel to be "a light unto the nations."

Eban dwelt on the public's mounting concern at the intensive drive to undermine the foundations of Jewish statehood and "propel us into a closed society."

The Zionist idea, he said, had from the outset been informed not only by Jewish, but also by universalist concepts.

Force but will study improvements in its living conditions. The weekly *Mayo* quoted Badr as saying the investigation will also look into the chain of command within the force, which is responsible for internal security in the country.

According to an official source, President Hosni Mubarak wants the final report on the investigations by the weekend. He will address the nation on Saturday to reveal the reasons behind the mutiny.

Cairo yesterday attacked the press and radio coverage in Damascus, Tripoli and Tehran of the mutiny. The attack came in a long commentary over the "Voice of the Arabs" radio station of Cairo.

The commentator said the Syrian and the Libyan media are accustomed to attributing any event in Egypt, including family quarrels, to the Camp David agreement with Israel.

According to al-Ahram, Mubarak asked Badr for a thorough study of the mutiny to determine whether the police conscripts were influenced by foreign agents.

It went on to say that authorities

are investigating an unnamed Egyptian lawyer's part in the disturbances. The paper said the lawyer, who is a member of a fundamentalist Islamic group, al-Ikhd (holy war), which was behind previous disturbances in Egypt.

This is the first time that an Egyptian source has revealed that a fanatic Islamic group had any connection with the mutiny.

Meanwhile, the Israeli delegation to the talks, headed by director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir, and the director-general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, flew to Egypt last night.

The two delegations are expected to tackle some of the more difficult outstanding questions, including the definition of the "question" in the compromise (which will outline the terms of reference of the arbitration on Taba), the post-arbitration arrangements and access at Taba and the nature of the conciliation stage in the arbitration process.

The talks will last until Thursday night or Sunday morning, Israeli sources said.

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Zionism combined Herzl's liberal humanism, Weizmann's scientific rationalism, and Ben-Gurion's pioneering egalitarianism, with a belief in social justice.

There was now a drive to eradicate these ideals and revive the Galut (diaspora) and its ghettos in this land.

Eban inveighed against those in the religious establishment who seek to deny the Jewish identity of their fellow Jews.

"A minority in our people has arrogated to itself the right to deny the Jewish identity of the rest. There is a bid to deplete the Jewish people not by demographic erosion, but by their dictates. They tell us we must not mingle with others, be they Christian or Moslem. They wish to deny us the freedom of artistic expression. They declare that there will be another law for the neighbours in our midst. They seek to dislodge the foundations of the State of Israel and renounce the principles enshrined in our Declaration of Independence."

Speaking with great emotion, Eban asked: "Is the Jewish people

that survived so many oppressors incapable of coping with encounters with members of other faiths in its sovereign land? We are witnessing a concerted bid to push us back into the ghetto."

Referring to the frequent use of the phrase that decries the Jews as "a people that dwells apart" Eban said heatedly, "Those who like using this quotation forget that it was intended as a curse, not as a blessing."

But, he warned, spiritual isolation was a viable option for some.

Here he spoke of the historic moment of grace when Buddha, Zoroaster, Confucius, the latter prophets of Israel, and the founders of Greek democracy had walked the earth without having any inkling of each other's existence. "But today, in the global village, once a world is uttered it echoes around the world. In the age of mass media and computers there is no privacy of language or ideas. Our Jewish identity must be formulated amidst a readiness to confront other concepts. Our land must be the harbour of the Jewish spirit, as well as that of the great world," he declared.

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The commentator said the Syrian and the Libyan media are accustomed to attributing any event in Egypt, including family quarrels, to the Camp David agreement with Israel.

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It went on to say that authorities

are investigating an unnamed Egyptian lawyer's part in the disturbances. The paper said the lawyer, who is a member of a fundamentalist Islamic group, al-Ikhd (holy war), which was behind previous disturbances in Egypt.

This is the first time that an Egyptian source has revealed that a fanatic Islamic group had any connection with the mutiny.

Meanwhile, the Israeli delegation to the talks, headed by director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir, and the director-general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, flew to Egypt last night.

The two delegations are expected to tackle some of the more difficult outstanding questions, including the definition of the "question" in the compromise (which will outline the terms of reference of the arbitration on Taba), the post-arbitration arrangements and access at Taba and the nature of the conciliation stage in the arbitration process.

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KNESSET NEWS

Post Knesset Staff

the end of this week.

Aloni noted that a debate was essential since Israel has failed to sign the International Conventions on Women's Rights.

She did not mention the reason for this failure.

But she said that in the rabbinical courts, to which women have frequent recourse, the woman is still regarded as a second-class citizen and as the personal property of her husband.

Despite the efforts of women's organizations such as Na'amat in the spheres of legislation and social advancement, Aloni said, the status of women in Israel is nevertheless in decline.

Summer time and religion

Alignment MK Micha Harish is to accuse Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz tomorrow of deliberately dragging his feet over the introduction of summer time this year on religious grounds.

Harish yesterday got the permission of the Alignment executive to present a motion on the subject in the plenum, and the motion was granted "urgent" status by the Knesset presidium at its weekly meeting.

Women's rights debate

Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement) asked Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel to schedule a debate in the plenum on women's rights in Israel, to mark International Women's Day, which falls towards

apartment size for South African immigrants receiving a government mortgage. The ceiling was previously 85 square metres. Henceforth, immigrants will be able to receive the \$40,000 mortgage, itself a recent increase, whatever the size of the apartment.

The committee also decided to establish a \$2m. fund to provide assistance for South African immigrants wishing to establish small businesses.

It was further decided that the responsible bodies will re-examine the customs regulations governing the importation of household goods of immigrants, with an eye to streamlining the procedure.

Herzl Katz, chairman of the inter-departmental steering committee,

chei Yisrael branch in Tel Aviv, and a checking account in Bank Hapoalim's King George Street branch in Jerusalem. The second account, intended for buying and selling stocks and shares, was opened and handled by Ya'ari, who was a foreign shares consultant at the bank.

The charge sheet states that Ya'ari and Granot used a forged power of attorney to transfer money from Melavski's Tel Aviv account to the Jerusalem one, and then withdrew the funds by forging her signature on cheques.

Melavski discovered the fraud last February. She made an appointment to meet Ya'ari in Tel Aviv on March 10.

Ya'ari arrived driving her husband's Subaru car. The two then picked up Ya'ari's confidante, Granot, and the three women drove to the Tel Baruch road where, it is charged, the murder took place.

Police initially treated the case as a hit-and-run accident.

But last October, the inquiry was re-opened. Melavski's sister, Haya Span, of Tel Aviv, told the police of her sister's bank accounts here, and their investigation uncovered Ya'ari's involvement.



Wearing traditional Maori dress, a delegate from New Zealand is greeted by President Chaim Herzog at his reception for participants in the International Conference on Urban Revitalization. (Dan Landau)

Al-Masri: Not concerned with political authority

Jerusalem Post Middle East Staff

Zafer al-Masri was one of the most successful West Bank businessmen and a leader of the young, pro-Jordanian generation there.

Born in 1941 into a wealthy and influential Nablus family, al-Masri was 17 when he took a degree in business administration at the American University of Beirut.

He then returned home to succeed his brother Hikmat as manager of the family's soap and matches factories. Hikmat al-Masri is today Speaker of the Jordanian Senate.

Gradually, Zafer al-Masri took control of the family's extensive business interests throughout Jordan and the Persian Gulf states. In 1973, he was elected head of the Nablus Chamber of Commerce.

In the 1976 local elections, he ran on a list headed by Bassam Shak'a, and was elected deputy mayor. But he resigned in 1981, in protest against Shak'a's political activities.

Several months later, Shak'a was deposed by the Civil Administration.

Al-Masri then helped develop the town's chamber of commerce and in October 1985, at the urging of his family and other local businessmen, and after receiving a green light from

Jordan and the PLO, he put forward his candidacy for the Nablus mayoralty.

The Civil Administration supported his rival, Basel Kenan. But Kenan failed to muster backing and al-Masri was appointed mayor last November 26.

From the outset, he sought to prove he was not collaborating with any Israeli autonomy plans.

Thus, in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, he stressed he wanted merely to run the municipality, and was not interested in any political authority.

Officials said that he did a good job. By buying power from the Israel Electricity Corporation, he brought down the price of electricity by 30 per cent. He also persuaded Jordan to resume funding it had frozen when the Israeli officer Jaber Hino ran the town.

Al-Masri lived modestly and was well liked in Nablus and throughout the West Bank. Unlike many of his rich fellow citizens who built ostentatious country villas, he lived in a town penthouse, though he did take skiing trips to Switzerland.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son.

Demjanjuk continues to deny ever being at Treblinka

By BARBARA AMOUYAL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

After four hours of interrogation yesterday in a heavily guarded room in Ayalon Prison in Ramle, suspected Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk continued to deny ever being in the Treblinka extermination camp during World War II.

Demjanjuk, described by warders as "polite and respectful, yet stubborn," underwent his first official questioning session since his extradition on Friday from the U.S. to face charges of crimes against the Jewish people.

A three-man investigating team,

led by assistant commander Alex Ish-Shalom, questioned the man suspected

HOME NEWS

Menachem Begin plumps for Shamir as Herut party head

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Menachem Begin has indicated support for the election of Yitzhak Shamir to succeed him as Herut chairman. The Jerusalem Post has learned from highly reliable sources. The former premier will not attend the opening of the party's convention next Sunday and has let the party know that he will not accept renomination as chairman, the sources say.

Begin's apparent unwillingness to retain the titular party leadership may well throw the convention into a conflict far more wrenching than anything predicted so far.

Since almost no faction is interested in a vacuum at the top, which Begin may thus cause, strenuous last minute efforts are under way to persuade him to agree to head the party, even if he remains totally uninvolved in its internal politics. In other words, Begin is being asked to agree to a continuation of the situation which has existed since he went into seclusion in 1983 as head of the then Likud government. Since then, and despite his total abstention from any active political involvement, he has continued as the party's titular head.

But Herut politicians are also hedging their bets and moves are afoot to reach some sort of peace agreement between the party's contending factions.

For the fear in Herut is that if Begin is adamant, it will be almost impossible for David Levy not to make a bid for the party leadership. According to Levy's recent rhetoric, his seeking the post of chairman would not undermine Yitzhak Shamir's position as *de facto* party boss or as vice-premier of the unity government, and hence would not foil the rotation agreement whereby Shamir is to succeed Shimon Peres as premier in October. Levy says that Shamir can take over as prime minister without being party head.

But for Shamir, that would be a vote of no-confidence. Hence, a Levy victory may make it impossible for Shamir to succeed to the premiership.

The Shamir-Moshe Arens camp maintains that if Begin vacates the Herut leadership the job should go to Shamir as party candidate for the premiership, and it says it is confident of victory. The faction's leaders say they are buoyed by the results of the internal elections, which, they assert, went their way. They also believe they can count on increasing their numbers by co-opting additional delegates nominated by the special party committee which is empowered to appoint 191 public figures as delegates to the convention, in addition to the 1,100 elected delegates. It is also widely agreed that the 150 delegates representing the La'am faction can be counted on to support Shamir.

But the Shamir side would still like to avoid the potentially damaging showdown. Some Shamir supporters told *The Post* that it still "cannot be entirely ruled out" that Begin will eventually relent and agree to stand as chairman. But sources very close to Begin say: "He has already asked not to be nominated. Theoretically, changes are always possible, but they are not likely. Much of what is said in the party is merely wishful thinking." They add that Begin has said it is only natural for Shamir to be party chairman since he is the prime minister designate. And in the Herut context, this is seen as the closest thing to a Begin blessing for Shamir.

The same sources see Begin's son Binyamin's involvement in pro-Shamir groups as yet another Begin nod in Shamir's direction. The convention is expected to mark Begin junior's entry into politics.

Menachem Begin, *The Post* was told, will not attend the convention's opening in Jerusalem next week. "It can't be said absolutely that he won't decide later to participate in a discussion at one of the convention committees in Tel Aviv, but Begin himself does not know yet if he will do this," the sources said.



Olive trees uprooted from a West Bank village and planted along Jerusalem's Martin Luther King Street were the cause of this demonstration yesterday. (Rahamim Israeli)

Jewish-Arab demonstration over uprooted olive trees

By HAJM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter
"I want to go home...to Katanna," read the placard hanging yesterday from the branches of a newly planted olive tree along Martin Luther King Street, adjacent to Jerusalem's Liberty Bell Garden. Demonstrators charged that the trees had been recently uprooted from the West Bank.

Both Jews and Arabs participated in the demonstration by the Jerusalem chapter of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, including residents of Katanna. The demonstrators charged that the planting by the Jerusalem Municipality of 16 trees from the village, part of 2,000 uprooted by the Green Patrol, contradicted the principles of the civil rights struggle and everything that the assassinated Martin Luther King had stood for.

On Tu B'Shvat, the group participated in a joint Jewish-Arab tree planting ceremony of 500 trees, but these were uprooted shortly afterwards. At yesterday's protest, members of the group read from the writings of King and recited prayers in Arabic, Hebrew and English.

"After what happened in Nablus where Zafar al-Masri was murdered on Sunday, the fact that people from Katanna are willing to come and demonstrate together with Jews is especially significant," Eli Shapiro, one of the demonstrators, told *The Jerusalem Post*. Attorney Jonathan Kuttab said that group members were "shocked to learn that the uprooted trees were planted in memory of Martin Luther King. The fellowship has sent letters of protest to both Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek and King's widow, Coretta King."

Both Jews and Arabs targets of racial hatred in Los Angeles

By TOM TUGEND
LOS ANGELES. — In an odd partnership of victims, Arabs and other Moslems have joined Jews as the targets of religious and racial hatred in Los Angeles County.

For the first time since the Human Relations Commission, an official body of the county government, started keeping track of religiously motivated acts of violence and vandalism six years ago, the commission listed anti-Arab and anti-Islamic incidents in its report for 1985.

The commission described the emergence of anti-Arab attacks as "the most serious new trend in racial or religious turmoil" in the county of eight million inhabitants.

The report also showed that anti-Jewish incidents greatly outnumbered all others; however, compared to previous years, there is a downward trend.

County officials link the attacks on Arab and Moslem institutions to the rash of terrorist hijackings, including

the TWA plane in June and the cruise ship Achille Lauro in October, as well as the attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports in December, which all claimed American lives.

In all, the report listed 71 religiously motivated incidents in 1985, of which 12 were directed against Arabs. The most serious one was an explosion in October that killed Alex Odeh, regional director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. Less serious incidents included anti-Moslem and anti-Arab graffiti sprayed on mosques and Arab-owned businesses.

Both county officials and local Arab spokesmen point out that few Americans distinguish between Palestinians, other Arabs, and non-Arab Moslems.

"Every time they say 'Arab' they're lumping a whole group together, and it's having an adverse effect," says Richard Harboush, a

prominent member of the local Arab community. "People feel that Arabs are the dirtiest thing that ever existed in this country. It's dehumanizing to us as an ethnic group."

Violence against Jewish targets was reported in 59 instances, a drop of 16 per cent from 1984 and the lowest figure recorded since 1980.

If increasing hostility towards Arab-Americans is based mainly on Arab terrorist acts in Europe and the Middle East, the way Arabs are portrayed on American television is feeding the antagonism, according to some critics. Writing on the subject in the *Los Angeles Times*, the paper's television reviewer Howard Rosenberg leads off: "You see them on your set. They're rich. They're primitive. They're conniving. They're TV's Ay-rabs." After describing some recent television shows, Rosenberg draws the conclusion that "to network entertainment programmers, the only good Arab is usually a bad Arab."

Postcard fingerprint is evidence of Trifa's link to Bucharest killings

By BARBARA AMOUYAL
and BENNY MORRIS

A fingerprint detected on a postcard sent in February 1942 to SS chief Heinrich Himmler was the only conclusive evidence linking 71-year-old Romanian Archbishop Valerian Trifa to the leader of the Iron Guard which massacred hundreds of Jews and Christians in Bucharest in January 1941.

Trifa, a prelate of the Romanian Orthodox Church, is believed to have been the spiritual mentor of the Romanian "Student Legionnaires," responsible for inciting a pogrom in which 170 Jews and 130 Gentiles were slaughtered.

Trifa acquired U.S. citizenship in 1950 but was deported last August for lying about his past on his application for citizenship. He now lives in Portugal.

Prime Minister Peres, possibly off to Portugal next week to attend the inauguration ceremony of President Mario Soares, is unlikely to ask Lisbon for the extradition of Trifa.

Israel has no extradition agreement with Portugal.

A number of Israelis have urged the government to take steps to bring Trifa to trial here. But Justice

Minister Moshe Nissim has stressed that when in the past the U.S. had proposed deporting Trifa to Israel, Jerusalem had refused to accept him.

Trifa is accused of inciting others to violence against Jews, but is not alleged to have physically attacked Jews. If tried in Israel, Trifa could well be found innocent and would then be legally in a position to stay in Israel as a free man, "which would be ridiculous."

According to Assistant Commander Dr. Yossi Almog, director of the National Police Headquarters' forensic department, a relatively new process of ion-argon laser detection enabled Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in the U.S. to positively identify Trifa more than 35 years after the postcard was written. Before this process was introduced in the late 70s, said Almog, it was virtually impossible to positively identify latent prints.

Almog admitted that the police here were slow in adopting modern forensic techniques. Since January 1985, however, Israel has caught up in the race for modernization. In fact, the past year showed a 17 per cent success rate in identifying latent

prints, surpassing rates of 14-16 per cent recorded in the U.S. and Britain.

Last year, some 500 cases handled by the national serious crimes unit were solved with the help of the revolutionary forensic process. New systems of fingerprint analysis enable detectives to pick up latent prints.

Almog told *The Jerusalem Post* about inroads in the use of Superglue to detect a fingerprint inside the taxi of murdered Jerusalem taxi-driver David Caspi last April. The print "would have been impossible to trace" by the conventional method of powder detection, he said.

Emunah keeps Na'amat debater from TV show

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Emunah, the National Religious Women's Organization, has blocked the participation of an Orthodox law professor who was to have represented Na'amat, the Histaadrut women's organization in a debate between the two groups due to be screened by Israel Television next week.

The head of ITV's religious department, Mordechai Priman, apparently bowed to Emunah pressure in informing Na'amat that Prof. Ariel Rosen-Zvi could not appear on their behalf as earlier scheduled.

Rosen-Zvi, architect of Na'amat's plan to have engaged couples draw up a financial contract prior to their marriage, is on the law faculty of Tel Aviv University and an acknowledged expert in Jewish law. He was to have appeared with Haviva Avi-gal, Na'amat's legal adviser.

The charges against Emunah and Priman are contained in a letter to Broadcasting Authority director Uri Porat from Na'amat head Masha Lubelsky. Emunah world chairman Ivriya Levine, who is also a member of the authority's plenum, has confirmed to *The Jerusalem Post* that her organization objected to Rosen-Zvi appearing on Na'amat's behalf.

Emunah opposes both the Na'amat-inspired contract and the organization's recently published *Guide to the Perplexed*, which is aimed at defending the status of women in Jewish law. It was at Emunah's initiative that teams representing the two women's groups

were to have debated these and other issues on television.

When Priman barred Rosen-Zvi, Na'amat wanted to withdraw from the programme. But Priman allegedly threatened to produce a one-sided show and announce that Na'amat had bowed out. Na'amat then agreed to go ahead. Priman is also alleged to have said that his public would not take kindly to Rosen-Zvi. Lubelsky's letter to Porat asks who appointed Priman a one-man censor. "Who is he to judge a Torah observant person as unsuitable for a programme of this nature?" Priman told *The Post* he knew nothing of the affair. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said. "I didn't see any letter and the director-general hasn't mentioned anything to me about a complaint."

Priman is also in trouble over a religious programme on intermarriage. Scheduled for screening last Wednesday, it was cancelled, pending "drastic revision," as racist and defamatory in content. The original programme contained a scene in which an unidentified Jewish woman with her back to the camera revealed the name and address of an Arab who allegedly forced her into a sexual relationship.

According to Porat, no one at ITV had verified the woman's story. Screening of such an invitation to racial incitement could have irreparably harmed relations between Arabs and Jews, Porat said.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Kiryat Malachi man stabbed in Gaza market

GAZA (Itim). — A vegetable dealer from Kiryat Malachi was stabbed and slightly wounded in the market here yesterday morning by a local youth, evidently as the result of an argument over a business deal.

David Nahmias, 39, who buys and sells produce in the market, was arguing with two local vendors when he was stabbed twice in the neck and once in the arm by a youth who had been standing nearby.

Nahmias said he believed the attacker was the son or employee of one of the vendors.

The youth escaped, and the police surrounded the market and arrested a number of people.

Nahmias was treated at a local hospital and afterwards at an army clinic.

Pickering: U.S. must sell arms to Saudis

KIRYAT GAT (Itim). — U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering said here yesterday that the U.S. is obligated to sell arms to Saudi Arabia.

Speaking to local high-school pupils, Pickering said that the Saudis need defensive weapons to protect their airspace. If the U.S. does not supply the arms, he said, Saudi Arabia will have no problem getting them from another producer, such as Britain.

Pickering also said that he did not expect any change in U.S. policy towards the PLO in the near future.

Haifa men guilty of rape

HAIFA (Itim). — Two local men, Issa Salameh and Naftali Kihal, were yesterday found guilty by the district court here of raping a woman member of the U.S. Sixth Fleet. Sentencing was delayed pending receipt of a probation officer's report.

The three-judge bench dismissed the men's claims that the woman, married and the mother of one child, had spent the evening of last November 13 with them at a pub and then agreed to have sexual relations with them.

But the bench did say that the men may have been misled by the woman's conduct, and may not have realized that she was prepared to go so far, but no further.

The bench also found that the men's abandonment of the woman after the rape proved that they had known she was not a willing partner.



A masked anti-vivisectionist at yesterday's demonstration. (TPPA)

Anti-vivisectionists hold quiet protest

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — About 20 anti-vivisectionists representing an organization known as Life for Animals held a quiet demonstration outside Beit Sokolow yesterday to arouse public opinion against medical experiments on animals.

Some participants wore masks representing rabbits, dogs and other animals examined in laboratories.

Dr. Andre Menashe, a veterinarian who is chairman of the group, said his objections were not only moral but also scientific, since results obtained from animal experiments have not always proven applicable to humans.

"Thalidomide is a tragic example," Menashe said. "The animal experiments showed no ill effects; only when humans started using it were children born without limbs and with other serious defects."

Zarit strike continues for ninth day

Jerusalem Post Reporter
ZARIT. — Most of the women and children of this northern Galilee moshav were sent to stay with family and friends in the centre of Israel yesterday, as the strike here entered its ninth day.

Zarit is one of five moshavim protesting against what they call government footdragging in dealing with their financial problems. At Shomera, Netua, Even Menahem

and Alkosh the strike is now entering its third day.

The settlements' representatives say that each moshav has a debt of \$1 million, most of it owed to the Galilee settlements' purchasing organization.

Yesterday, the entrances to the settlements were again blocked, but the police, who earlier this week had persuaded the farmers to unlock the gates, did not intervene.

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Baghdad claims 2 enemy divisions wiped out Iraq urges Iranian surrender at Faw

NICOSIA. — Iraq said yesterday it wiped out two divisions of Iranian revolutionary guards in a night battle in the Faw peninsula.

Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah called on Iranian troops who he said were besieged in the Faw peninsula on the Iraqi side of the Shatt al-Arab waterway to surrender.

Khairallah's surrender call came as both sides made conflicting claims about battle successes both in the flatlands around the oil port of Faw, in southern Iraq, and in the snow-covered mountains in the Uleymaniyah sector in the north-east, Iraqi Kurdistan.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported that two divisions of Iranian Revolutionary Guards, which it said launched a counter-attack in the Faw sector, were wiped out in a

night-long battle.

The Iraqi agency said fierce fighting raged from 10.45 p.m. Sunday until 5.30 a.m. yesterday.

(An Iranian regular army division is normally 10,000 men but military sources in Tehran said reserve divisions of war volunteers might comprise as few as 1,500 men.)

Iraq said it inflicted 500 Iraqi casualties in what appeared to be the same fighting, termed "lightning raids" by Iran's national news agency, and said its air force bombed strategic areas behind the Iraqi front lines.

Iraq also reported another advance on the northern Kurdish front, saying its troops had captured 330 sq km of Iraqi mountains since the start of their "Dawn 9" offensive a week ago.

A war communique broadcast by

Tehran radio said Iranian troops were now only 18 km from the Kurdistan provincial capital, Sulaymaniyah, some 270 km north-east of Baghdad.

Iraq on Sunday sent its helicopter gunships to raid two vessels in the shoals, some 110 km northeast of Qatar. They hit the Turkish 142,000-ton Atlas-1 in the morning, killing the chief engineer.

Less than 12 hours later, the warplanes returned to attack the Norwegian 42,000-ton chemical carrier Bow Fighter. The Iranian rockets hit the ship in the stern but caused no injuries among the 22-member Norwegian crew.

Neither ship was badly damaged and fires started on both vessels were put out by their crews. (Reuters, AP).

Vienna magazine says Waldheim was Nazi SA member

VIENNA. — An Austrian magazine said yesterday that former UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim had been a member of the Nazi Sturmabteilung, but Waldheim immediately denied the accusation.

The independent weekly *Profil* printed what it said was a copy of Waldheim's military registration card from Austria's war archives.

Profil said the card bore initials showing he had joined the Sturmabteilung (SA) — the Nazi party's political militia — and the Nazi student federation after Germany annexed Austria in 1938.

The files showed that Waldheim joined the Nazi students organization only a few weeks after annexation. He was registered as a member of a horseback division of the SA in November, 1938.

The SA then was not the band of brutal rowdies it was in Germany before Hitler came to power. The SA was not listed among criminal organizations at the Nuremberg war crimes trials in 1945. (Reuters, JTA)

LIBYA. — Libya yesterday announced the replacement of Abdussalam Treiki, long-time foreign minister who is reportedly ill by Kamel Hassan Magbur, former oil minister and president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Soviets urge U.S. to end restrictions on trade

MOSCOW. — Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov yesterday called on the U.S. to end trade restrictions against his country, when he addressed the Communist Party Congress here.

The USSR wanted increased links with the capitalist nations in trade, science, technology, finance and credit "strictly in our reciprocal interests." This implied "the complete end of restrictions, boycotts and embargoes organized by the U.S."

Ryzhkov said it was vital for the Soviet Union to play a bigger role in the international division of labour.

This was specially true of the Comecon Communist economic alliance. Closer economic links were planned with other communist countries, in particular with China, in the year ahead, he said.

At the same time, the USSR hoped for greater cooperation with countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The Soviet Union would continue giving them aid in various forms.

Special consideration would be given to countries with a socialist leaning, Ryzhkov said.

Meanwhile, a top Soviet official made clear yesterday Moscow still wanted another summit between Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan after doubts were raised last week about it being held.

Georgy Arbatov, head of the U.S.-Canada Institute here, told reporters that a second summit was in both U.S. and Soviet interests. (AFP, Reuters)

New Mideast staff in top U.S. body

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — The new White House National Security Adviser, Vice Admiral John Poindexter, is redeploying his senior Middle East staff.

The two top Middle East staffers, James Covey and Howard Teicher, will soon be given new assignments to make room for Dennis Ross, a former senior Pentagon official who has most recently been teaching and

researching at Stanford University in California.

Ross is well-known in Washington as a strong supporter of close U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation.

Covey, a former deputy consul-general in Jerusalem, is expected to return to the State Department foreign service.

Teicher is expected to remain on the National Security Council staff, but in another capacity.

Police dodge firebombs in Ulster strike

BELFAST (Reuters). — Rioters hurled petrol bombs at police yesterday as a general strike called by Protestant leaders against the Anglo-Irish Pact paralyzed much of Northern Ireland.

Gangs of masked youths attacked patrols in North Belfast with dozens of petrol bombs, a police spokesman said, but there were no reports of casualties.

A policeman was shot in the thigh by his own gun during clashes between pickets and police outside a factory in South Belfast, the spokesman said, but was not seriously injured.

The 24-hour strike disrupted air and sea links, caused scattered electricity blackouts and closed dozens of factories and schools, officials said.

Roads across the province were blocked by felled trees and the main motorway into Belfast was closed at two points by oil and nails and by pickets, police said.

Leaders of the Protestant majority called the strike in protest against Britain's signing of an accord with the Irish Republic last November, giving Dublin a consultative role in Northern Ireland affairs for the first time.

Protestant politician Peter Robinson, regarded as the driving force behind the strike, yesterday told reporters: "I hope by midnight tonight the world will have got the message that the Prime Minister (Margaret Thatcher) is strangling democracy in Northern Ireland and that the agreement must go."

Heavy losses for Kohl in municipal poll

BONN (Reuters). — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) have suffered heavy losses in the first of a series of electoral tests in the run-up to his bid for re-election next January.

Results from municipal elections in the northwestern state of Schleswig-Holstein Sunday showed the CDU vote had slumped to 44.2 per cent from 50.1 per cent in 1982, the party's worst showing in the state since 1962.

The opposition Social Democrats (SPD) increased their share to 40.3 per cent from 34.6 per cent and ousted the CDU from control of the four biggest cities, including the state capital Kiel.

Support for the ecologist Greens jumped to 7.4 per cent — three points clear of the liberal Free Democrats (FDP). Kohl's junior partners in the centre-right coalition government.

Aquino sees stronger ties with U.S.

MANILA. — President Corason Aquino said yesterday she foresees even stronger ties between the Philippines and the U.S., but ruled out a close relationship with the Soviet Union.

In an interview with the Associated Press six days after she wrested the presidency from Ferdinand Marcos, Aquino said neither Marcos nor members of his family would be allowed back into the country until "we have stabilized the situation, and not until we are convinced that emotions have, indeed, died down."

The new president also said she personally directed the U.S. ambassador to send Marcos out of the country instead of to his northern province as he requested; that she wants the founder of the Philippine Communist Party freed from military custody; and that she has a plan for the U.S. bases but will not disclose it until negotiations begin.

Asked about U.S.-Philippine relations, she said: "I think we will develop stronger ties. I can see no reason why two democracy-loving countries cannot maintain or even enhance better relations."

Asked about the possibility of a similarly close relationship with the Soviet Union, she said: "I guess it can't be close to both. It would be wishful thinking that you could possibly be close to the two superpowers."

Aquino said she wants freedom for alleged Communist Party founder Jose Maria Sison and three other political prisoners with suspected ties to the insurgency. Their cases

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

Arctic gales turn back women on way to Pole

PARIS (AFP). — Six women trying to reach the North Pole were flown back to Longyearbyen on Spitzbergen on Sunday, temporarily defeated by Arctic gales and shifting ice floes, according to a report reaching here from the team leader.

The women, four French and two Canadian, planned to make a new start within a few days from a point at 82° north latitude on the permanent pack-ice of the Arctic Ocean.

Meanwhile, the six were being treated for frostbite in hospital at Longyearbyen, having lived through temperatures ranging from -40 to -70 Centigrade before regaining their base camp on the Norwegian island.

Reagans 'hurt' by daughter's novel

NEW YORK (Reuters). — President Reagan and his wife Nancy were deeply hurt by a thinly-disguised autobiographical novel written by their daughter.

Newsweek reported on Sunday.

It described the book by 33-year-old Patti Davis, *Homefront* as "a self-indulgent coming of age story." It tells the story of the rebellious daughter of an ex-governor of California who is about to become president.

The Reagans have not commented on the novel, but *Newsweek* quoted a Reagan adviser as saying: "Sure they're hurt... but they've decided to keep a stiff upper lip."

Lord Chancellor, 78, weds former secretary

LONDON (Reuters). — Britain's lord chancellor, Lord Hailsham, 78, wed for the third time Saturday taking as his wife a woman who worked for him as a secretary almost 40 years ago.

Lord Hailsham, one of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's closest associates and the man responsible for Britain's legal system, married Miss Deirdre Shannon, 57, at a Roman Catholic church in London.

Asked whether he felt too old to marry again at 78, Lord Hailsham replied: "One needs a wife more than ever at my age."

French Basque separatists in 5 bomb attacks

BAYONNE, France (Reuters). — A French Basque separatist group claimed responsibility for five bomb attacks early yesterday in southwest France which caused damage but no injuries, police said.

Leaflets signed by the Iparrizarak group found at the scene of the blasts said the attacks were in reprisal for alleged help given by police and local people to a shadowy Spanish death squad, the Anti-Terrorist Liberation Groups (GAL).

Week-long Greek oil blaze extinguished

SALONIKA (Reuters). — A week-old oil fire here, one of the worst such blazes ever to have taken place in Europe was extinguished early yesterday, sources at the Ministry for Northern Greece said.

They said the fire, in a tank containing 10,000 tons of fuel oil, had been put out. The flames were now confined to small pools of oil on the ground around the tank and these were expected to die down during the day.

At its height, the blaze engulfed 12 oil tanks belonging to the Greek firm Jet Oil, injuring seven firemen and destroying at least \$8 million worth of oil destined for Yugoslavia.

The Jet Oil terminal was believed to have contained 100,000 tons when the fire broke out last Monday.

Report finds U.S. policy on terrorism satisfactory

WASHINGTON (AFP). — A presidential committee set up to examine U.S. policy on terrorism found it satisfactory and not in need of major changes, a senior state department official said here Sunday.

A report by the team, formed after a U.S. Trans World Airliner was hijacked by Arab extremists last June when one passenger was killed, found U.S. policy "pretty good," according to Robert Oakley, the State Department's leading expert on terrorism.

The report, approved by President Reagan and due to be published Thursday, recommended retaliatory action against terrorists but not against countries which harbour them. It said the kind of action taken against terrorists should be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Bangladesh to build 12-km long road bridge

DACCA (Reuters). — Bangladesh will build a 12-kilometre road bridge over the Jamuna river at a cost of \$836 million to link Dacca with northern areas of the country, Communications Minister Moudud Ahmed said yesterday.

He told a press conference that construction of the bridge, which would also carry power and gas lines would start in 1988 and be completed in 1992.

SPORTS

Ref honoured

Post Sports Staff
Israel's basketball players may have failed to earn invitations to participate in the finals of the European basketball contests, but the country will be represented at one of these games, after all — referee Reuben Viorovnik has been invited to officiate at the final of the European Cup-Winners Cup between Caceria of Italy and Barcelona of Spain on March 18. This is the first time that an Israeli referee has ever been asked to handle so important a game.

Kathy's dream ends

OAKLAND, California (AP). — Chris Evert Lloyd ended unseeded Kathy Jordan's giant-killing tennis spree with a 6-2, 6-4 victory in the finals of the Virginia Slims of California. Jordan began the match after beating Martina Navratilova and Hana Mandlikova.

Lloyd's key weapons on the medium fast carpet were pinpoint lobs and crisp crosscourt passing shots that often forced the net-rushing Jordan to lunge awkwardly just out of reach. Lloyd has now won three tournaments this year.

In La Quinta, California, Joakim Nyström of Sweden outclassed a listless Yannick Noah of France 6-1, 6-3, 6-2 today to win the \$405,000-dollar La Quinta Classic men's tennis tournament. Nyström, the tournament's fifth seed, simply outclassed the off-form Noah, seeded fourth, winning in one hour and 41 minutes.

Noah only discovered as he walked on court that the match was the best of five sets, and it seemed to deflate both his physical and mental resolve. All previous rounds in the tournament had been the best of three.

In the first two sets, Noah charged the nets, only to be passed by sizzling cross-court drives. So he changed tactics in the third set, abandoning his suicide drill at the net in favour of looping forehands from the backcourt which Nyström mastered with ease. The Swede quickly settled into this new pattern and came to net himself.

"I think that this was my best match ever and my best tournament too," said Nyström, who now has eight Grand Prix titles to his name. Once known as "The other Swede," because he struggled in the past to gain a spot on the talent-packed Swedish Davis Cup team, Nyström will be a starting singles player for his country next week when they face Denmark in Copenhagen.

You can't win them all

NEW YORK (AP). — For most of February, the Detroit Pistons and the Milwaukee Bucks were unbeatable, but the double-digit basketball runs came to an end on Sunday.

"We had a good run, 10 in a row," Detroit coach Chuck Daly said after the Celtics' 129-109 rout of the Pistons. "We're playing the best basketball we can, but they are too. Their intensity was phenomenal."

Larry Bird scored 35 points and guard Danny Ainge a career-high 27 for Boston. Isiah Thomas had 25 points and Kelly Tripucka 20 for the Pistons.

The Washington Bullets ended the Bucks' five-game winning streak by inflicting on them a sound 125-104 defeat.

Standings

| Eastern Conference | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|
| Atlantic Division | | | |
| | W | L | PCT. |
| Boston | 47 | 11 | .810 |
| Philadelphia | 39 | 21 | .650 |
| New Jersey | 38 | 26 | .594 |
| Washington | 31 | 33 | .485 |
| New York | 19 | 40 | .323 |

Central Division

| | W | L | PCT. |
|-----------|----|----|------|
| Milwaukee | 39 | 12 | .667 |
| Atlanta | 35 | 22 | .613 |
| Detroit | 32 | 26 | .556 |
| Cleveland | 30 | 28 | .519 |
| Chicago | 21 | 40 | .344 |
| Indiana | 21 | 40 | .344 |

Western Conference

| Midwest Division | | | |
|------------------|----|----|------|
| | W | L | PCT. |
| Houston | 38 | 14 | .731 |
| Denver | 31 | 21 | .598 |
| Utah | 31 | 20 | .608 |
| Dallas | 30 | 24 | .558 |
| San Antonio | 28 | 28 | .500 |
| Sacramento | 27 | 33 | .450 |

Pacific Division

| | W | L | PCT. |
|---------------|----|----|------|
| L.A. Lakers | 43 | 16 | .729 |
| Portland | 30 | 24 | .558 |
| Phoenix | 29 | 25 | .538 |
| L.A. Clippers | 22 | 38 | .367 |
| Seattle | 21 | 38 | .354 |
| Golden State | 19 | 43 | .306 |

SCOREBOARD

CRICKET. England v Trinidad and Tobago — England 299 and 141m for 4 (Stank 37 n.o.) Trinidad and Tobago 109 and 116 for 4.
Australia v New Zealand — Australia 364 and 49 for 2, New Zealand 339.
GOLF. — Henry Kiss was the Honda Classic in Coral Springs with a 287. Mary Beth Zimmerman won the Costa Mesa LPGA tournament with a 281.
NFL. — Blackhawk 6, Blues 2; Devils 6, Jets 4; Capitals 4, Rangers 2; Oilers 2, Flyers 1 (OT) Flames 5, Kings 1.
ATHLETICS. — Amstel Almond won the Ashkelon 10 km. race in 32:18. Mazal Shalom won the women's event in 36:55.
GYMNASTICS. — Alenik Tikhonidich (USSR) narrowly beat Brian Gimsberg (U.S.) for the men's overall title in the America's Cup tournament at Fairfax, Virginia. Thirteen-year-old Kristin Phillips (U.S.) won the women's title, followed by Borjana Stojanovic (Bulgaria).

Welsh heavyweight Farr, dead at 71

LONDON (Reuters). — Tommy Farr, one of only three men to take heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis the full distance, died yesterday aged 71.

Probably the most famous fighter Wales has produced, Farr's greatest moment of a distinguished career came in August 1937 when he fought Louis in New York.

The American boxing legend won the first defence of his title on points, but Welshmen are still convinced Farr would have got the decision if the bout had been held in Britain.

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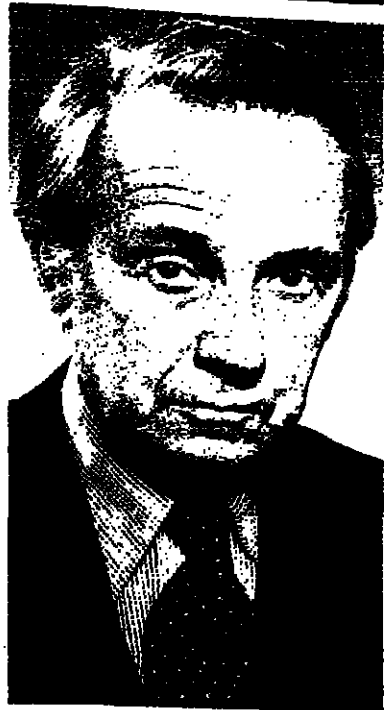
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סוכן מן הארץ



Recently retired under-secretary-general of the UN, Brian Urquhart.

An open letter to Brian Urquhart from the Post's David Landau

Cri de coeur for a conciliator

Dear Brian, I suppose you'll find it droll that we should choose you as the first addressee of our "open letter" on this our new Middle East page. After all, we could just as easily send you a letter in the mail - which we cannot do to all the many Middle Eastern leaders and diplomats with whom we want to communicate.

It must seem especially strange to apostrophize you, and disturb your remote retirement in a week of such ominous violence and frustration closer to home.

But amid all the bad and bitter news of recent days, events which separately and together seem to put paid to any hope of peaceful progress, an interview you gave to the AP ("Urquhart: Palestinians missed the bus") stood out as a tiny ray of realistic light.

Hussein hesitates as always; Arafat prevaricates; Mubarak is beleaguered; a West Bank moderate is eradicated while Shimon Peres, lame-duck premier, is impotent either to dialogue with him or to defend him from death. Against this backdrop, Assad's sabre-rattling sounds more urgent and convincing than ever.

In Jerusalem, among the professionals who have seen

it all before, there is an atmosphere of spring 1973. That is why I am writing to you. You've seen it all before, in 40 years of largely thankless Middle East shuttling. You know that our regional politics do not brook a vacuum. Once diplomacy dies, the momentum towards war relentlessly increases.

You, moreover, unlike the politicians, have had the guts to admit you were wrong. "In retrospect," you told AP, "it seems a pity that the Palestinians and the Arabs weren't prepared to try out the autonomy talks, which are beginning to look as if they would have been a great deal better than anything they're likely to get now."

Much of my, and welcome to the dwindling band of us who still regard the Camp David document as (potentially) the most promising piece of paper - peace 242, apple of the UN's eye - ever to emanate from Middle East diplomacy.

I distinguish, of course, as no doubt you do, between what Camp David actually says and what one of its signatories, Menachem Begin, and his party, have subsequently pretended that it says.

This week, for instance, Yitzhak Shamir, in one of his usual hypocritical calls for negotiations under Camp

David, said the document provided for "peace with the Arab states and autonomy for the Arabs of Eretz Israel." (If that's what it says, why did he oppose it in the Knesset at the time?) Ariel Sharon, another contender for the mantle of the man who signed Camp David, and then welched on it, proclaimed on Sunday that since the Arabs had spurned autonomy, Israel should move to "the next stage" under Camp David - annexation.

These are the men who, through the well-chosen instrumentality of Israel's own India-rubber man, Yosef Burg, managed to choke the real Camp David to death.

THE PURPOSE of this *cri de coeur*, written under the shadow - perhaps still distant, but unmistakable nevertheless - of gathering war clouds, is to suggest that you might have a try at reviving Camp David, whose merits you have (belatedly) come to recognize.

Periodically - and especially in periods of apparent hopelessness - those who seek peace in this unhappy region hark back, instinctively, almost in desperation, to the concept of a conciliator, a middleman, a go-between. The records of such efforts, from Bernadotte through

Johnstone and Jarring, Rogers, Kissinger, Habib, provide scant encouragement for yet another attempt at toing and froing (though, in my book at least, Kissinger's shuttles were tremendous breakthroughs).

But now diplomacy is out of steam. The gun - meanwhile those of the rioters and the assassins - is talking now. Our leadership gallery, at home and abroad, is peopled by the obdurate and the pusillanimous. The former are dragging us to war; the latter are powerless to stop them. This is one of those junctures when an outsider might, just might, be able to help.

I need not tell you, nor the readers of this newspaper, that of all the many shuttlers and would-be peacemakers, you have come through with an unblemished record for dispassionate compassion - appreciated in every regional capital.

Nor are you a politician, present or past, concerned with the "place in history" and the size of the lecture fees.

You are your own man now, no longer the UN's, with all the constraints and inhibitions of international civil service. Yet a warm welcome undoubtedly would await you in the highest chanceries of every country in the area.

'Deep wound'

The front page (right) of *Al-Kuds*, the widely circulated East Jerusalem daily was devoted entirely to the late Zafer al-Masri yesterday. It included reports of the assassination, announcements by West Bank and East Jerusalem institutions condemning the murder and a news item conveying PLO chief Yasser Arafat's condolences to the al-Masri family. The editorial headline read "The Deep Wound"



The power of petition

A large proportion of applications to Israel's High Court come from West Bank and Gaza Arabs. Ron Jourard and Joshua Brilliant report.

ONE OF every five applicants to the High Court of Justice is an Arab from the West Bank or Gaza Strip. Deputy Attorney-General Yehudit Karp revealed last Friday.

She was speaking at a panel discussion at the Hebrew University on the civil rights of the residents of the administered territories.

The large number of petitions submitted by Arabs from the territories - some 100 out of about 500 filed last year - demonstrated their belief that the High Court could protect their rights, she said.

But Jerusalem lawyer Jonathan Kuttab, another panelist, said many Palestinians were reluctant to turn to the High Court, because they felt that doing so would accord legitimacy to Israeli rule. "I have a hard time convincing them that it is useful to go to the High Court," he said.

The number of West Bank and Gaza Arabs prepared to use the court was actually much greater, attorney Moshe Drori noted. Often lawyers representing such clients won their cases merely by threatening to petition the High Court. The military government often gave in, he said, because it feared a court precedent that might restrict its future actions.

Lawyer Darwish Nasser, also on the panel, said that the large number of applications to the High Court from West Bankers, given their reluctance to turn to that forum, indicated the seriousness of human rights violations in the territories.

Kuttab, who represents some clients being held for security offences, said his first problem was to find his client. He complained that Israeli authorities did not always respond truthfully to lawyers' inquiries.

Kuttab said that sometimes the authorities themselves did not know where the person was. "Every prison has a section run by the General Security Services, which do not coordinate fully with the prison command."

A FURTHER problem, he said, was the rules of evidence in military courts, which permitted conviction on the basis of classified evidence that the defence lawyer was barred from examining. Such evidence, he said, was adduced in most of the cases involving administrative detention and deportation.

Karp, however, noted that the

High Court has developed a practice of examining the evidence itself and determining whether it justified the contested action. Yet she admitted that this was "not a complete answer."

The evidentiary rules in the military courts, she said, reflected the clash between human rights and the demands of security.

David Kretzmer, who teaches law at the Hebrew University, said that under customary international law, which Israel enforced in the territories, the occupying power could limit certain rights to protect security.

He cited the case of the East Jerusalem Arabic newspaper *a-Taliya*, in which the High Court had upheld a ban on the paper's distribution in the West Bank. The military administration had banned the paper for security reasons; it had the discretion to decide if these warranted the ban.

Customary international law of belligerent occupation, said Kretzmer, did not oblige the occupying power to respect freedom of expression. That freedom, therefore, could easily be overridden by security considerations.

Kretzmer pointed out that the military government was not a government "of the people or even mainly for the people." There was therefore a discrepancy in the aims of applying the law between those of the government and those intended by international law, he said.

He cited as an example the categorization of land as state land which the government then used for building settlements. Under international law, state land was supposed to be held as a usufruct, and not for uses of the occupying power.

It was time, Kretzmer said, for a rethinking of the legal standards applied in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on human rights matters. "International customary law of belligerent occupation never foresaw an occupation lasting for 19 years," he said.

In a case such as *a-Taliya*, for example, the Israeli standard for restricting the freedom of expression would have required the court to ask if there were a "high probability" that distribution of the newspaper would endanger security. In the *a-Taliya* case, the court had simply examined if there were security grounds for barring the paper's distribution.

KUTTAB, HOWEVER, rejected a search for new legal standards, saying this could lead to the abandonment of any clear standards and the creation of a *sui generis* situation in which the military government could justify any act. Kuttab said he favoured "clear standards" based on existing international law.

Kretzmer also noted with concern that, whereas in Israel the government could not dismiss judges whose rulings were not to its liking, on the West Bank the members of the advisory committee that reviews deportation orders and military court judges enjoyed no such immunity.

According to Karp, to determine if Israel respected human rights in the territories, one should ask if the infringements resulted from a conscious government policy. Israel had no such policy, she insisted. One should also ask: Does machinery exist for the redress of grievances? The High Court of Justice fulfilled this requirement, she said.

Not only did Israel follow international law in its treatment of the Arabs in the territories, Karp stressed, but by opening the High Court to those inhabitants Israel had gone "far beyond" its international obligations. "No other military administration is subject to judicial review by the occupying power," she said.

The court subjected the acts of the military administration to a double test, she said. First, it asked if they were in keeping with international law. Next, it asked if they accorded with the norms of Israeli administrative law.

Those norms proscribed, for instance, acts that were discriminatory or based on irrelevant considerations. As an example of a government act that was invalidated because it was based on extraneous considerations, Karp cited the 1979 case of *Elon Moreh*. In that case, the court had ordered the government to dismantle a West Bank settlement, because political, and not security, considerations underlay the seizure of the private land it had been established on.

Cases such as *Elon Moreh*, she said, inspired confidence in the High Court among the Arabs of the territories.

Darwish Nasser, pointed out that by examining whether the acts of the military administration fulfilled the requirements of Israeli administrative law, Israel was not making any concession. The High Court, he said, simply viewed the military administration as subject to Israeli norms because it was a branch of the government.

IN EGYPT it is not enough to seize power or to be elected to be recognized as *za'im* - leader of the masses. To win a place in the hearts of the Egyptians and to be more than just "president" requires some great personal achievement.

President Gamel Abdel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal. Sadat began the Yom Kippur War and proved that Egypt was not afraid of Israeli military might.

But Mubarak, who apparently is having trouble just running affairs, has yet to make his mark.

On coming to power, Mubarak's first task was to ensure the central government's control of internal security. To judge from last week's riots by conscript security police, it seems that he is back at square one.

"Internal security will be the main item on my agenda for some time," Mubarak used to tell the foreign press in the early days of his rule. He indirectly criticized his slain predecessor for failing to crack down sooner on Moslem fundamentalists.

"We should have done that before," he would say. "When we arrest all those people, everything will be okay." But today it appears that he made the same error as Sadat.

MUBARAK sought reconciliation with Sadat's political opposition. First he freed some 30 political leaders from both the left and right who had been detained along with 1,500 Moslem and Christian extremists a few weeks before Sadat's assassination. In addition, Mubarak allowed the opposition press to flourish as it never had during the previous 30 years. In return he received scathing criticism from the opposition parties; surely he has had second thoughts these days about the freedom he gave them.

The main opposition parties are the National Progressive Unionist Grouping (NPUG), the Socialist Labour Party (SLP) and the Liberal Socialists (LS). The first two are the only real opposition groups, since the LS is actually backed by the government. These parties frequently attack the government on the issues of political freedom; socio-economic policy; regional policies, including the peace with Israel; and relations with the two superpowers.

The parties conduct these attacks through their weekly newspapers - *al-Ahali*, *a-Shab* and *al-Ahram*. These papers also criticize Mubarak for the difficulties of daily life in Egypt though they surely know he is not personally responsible, and that any ruler would have trouble coping.

Mubarak's reaction to the criticism has been restrained. He has reminded his detractors that his legacy from Sadat was an unenviable one.

As for the lack of political freedom, he says that Egypt is not yet ripe for the Western-style democracy. "When countries like the U.S., France and Britain reached their level of democracy, they already had solid industrial and agricultural bases. All their people were educated. If these elements existed in Egypt, I would allow complete freedom and democracy without fear," he once said.

If Mubarak had to worry only about the opposition of the political parties, he wouldn't have a serious problem. As noisy as they are, they can be closely watched by the security forces. And Mubarak has restricted their influence by limiting the number of newspaper copies they print. Opposition leaders are rarely invited to appear on radio and television, which are controlled by the information minister. In contrast, leaders of the ruling National Democratic Party frequently appear in the broadcast media.

THE REAL challenge to Mubarak's regime is that of radical Islam, which seemed to be smothered by the crackdown on fundamentalists after Sadat's assassination. But now we know that it was only dormant.

The wave of Islamic fundamentalism that has swept Egypt in recent years is clearly visible to the foreign eye. A growing number of women wear the *hijab*, or traditional Islamic robe, and cover their heads with a white scarf. Such attire is especially noticeable at the universities, where male students have changed from American-style jeans to the flowing *galabiyas*.

At prayer time, particularly at public prayer services on Friday, worshippers fill the mosques in Cairo and other cities. Sometimes they are so numerous that they spill onto the surrounding sidewalks.

It has become fashionable to place stickers bearing Koranic verses on car windows. The Coptic Christians,



A pause for prayer on the streets of Alexandria

(Rahamim Israeli)

Fundamental problems

Victor Nahmias looks into the tough challenges facing Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak

in imitation, began making stickers citing verses from the New Testament. But the government outlawed these stickers after fights broke out between Moslem and Coptic drivers.

To counter the menace of Islamic fundamentalism, Mubarak launched a "programme of guidance" for youth through public lectures and conferences. The government sent sheikhs, religious teachers, to run study circles at mosques around the country to teach the true spirit of Islam. Koranic exegesis on TV by Sheikh Mohammed a-Sha'rawi was a great success, attracting millions of regular viewers. Mubarak also tried to "reeducate" imprisoned or newly released Islamic radicals.

All these measures, however, appear to have been insufficient. Islamic fundamentalists seem to have been behind last week's riots, having considerable influence in the Central Security Force. The illiterate conscripts in this force are not susceptible to the intellectual propaganda of the leftists, but are fertile ground for Islamic radicalism.

Other formidable problems facing Mubarak are poverty, and the gargantuan task of feeding and housing a fast-growing population.

Egypt's per capita income of \$500 a year is one of the lowest in the world. The population, already 49 million, increases by another million every 10 months. The scope of the housing problem was indicated in a recent remark by Prime Minister Ali Lutfi: "All we need is one million housing solutions."

Adding to these difficulties are the country's dropping oil revenues. In 1985-86 these were \$1.5 billion, down from about \$3b. in 1981-82. The economic slowdown in the Gulf states has led to a large drop in the remittances of the million-odd Egyptians working there.

MUBARAK has not been tempted to delude the people with promises of easy solutions. In his speeches, he has exhorted the people to increase production and to avoid waste. But life in Egypt has remained hard for the masses, and the lives of the wealthy few makes their burden even harder to bear.

The average Egyptian goes to sleep hungry in an overcrowded flat but during the day passes by luxury boutiques and swank hotels.

Mubarak lives modestly. He and his wife Susan and their two sons, both graduates of the American University of Cairo, live in Heliopolis, a suburb of the capital. At first he forbade the Egyptian press from reporting on his family life or on his wife's social activities. But he seems to have eased this restriction.

To demonstrate his honesty, Mubarak put prominent figures on trial on charges of corruption, beginning with Sadat's brother Ismat and including some ministers and other



Mubarak: a 'clean image' but an 'empty face' (Camera Press)

high officials. This earned the president a "clean image" and the respect of his countrymen.

But in the eyes of masses, he is still an "empty face," as he was nicknamed on coming into power. One observer said then that it seems that Mubarak is still Sadat's Sadat.

The recent disturbances, besides exposing the latent threat of fundamentalism, have posed another serious problem for Mubarak. Until now, the Central Security Force was responsible for guarding sites such as embassies, foreign institutions, government offices and bridges. It main-

tained security in the broad sense in Cairo and other cities.

Mubarak will no longer be able to rely on the force to carry out this important task. He will have to use the army to fill the vacuum. This will surely thrust the army into a larger role in Egyptian politics.

The position of Defence Minister Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala will no doubt be strengthened as a result. Till now, Mubarak has succeeded in avoiding the appointment of Ghazala to the post of vice president. After the army's intervention last week to quell the riots, Mubarak "owes him one."

If the army's influence grows, this will limit Mubarak's freedom of action and is likely to have a negative effect on life in the country.

IT SHOULD be encouraging to Mubarak that the Egyptian masses did not join in the recent disturbances. But unless he makes some progress in dealing with his country's crying needs, the next outburst of popular discontent may not be so easily contained.

Mubarak's success in solving Egypt's problems may be just what he needs to earn the title of *za'im* - leader of the masses.

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[illegible]

MARKET PLACE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

Fashion fiasco

"ISRAELI encourages new Arab Alliance." It was a headline guaranteed to make any news editor of any publication anywhere in the world take a second look. But neither the story nor the headline potential was exploited by the organization that stood to gain the most from the exposure.

In fact, the Israel Export Institute (IEI), which organized the recent Israel Fashion Buyers' Days, in Tel Aviv, also known as Israel Fashion Week, did practically nothing to publicize the event.

Publicity is an essential ingredient in market promotion, and fashion, perhaps more than any other industry, relies heavily on the press to make known its trends and innovations.

But back to our tailor-made headline, which was totally ignored, if indeed anyone was aware of its tantalizing news value. Among the companies displaying their new export collections was Jerusalem Leather, an Arab-owned enterprise operated by the Hibrabi family in East Jerusalem. For the two previous Fashion Weeks in which Jerusalem Leather participated, the collections were designed first by Tuvi Zvi and then by Guy Fulop. This time, the Hibrabi's commissioned Hani Mourad, the only Arab couture designer working in Israel.

So here we had an Arab alliance operating under the aegis of an Israeli organization, and no-one bothered to try for media mileage. PUBLICITY was one of the areas in which the IEI cut back on expenditure. No foreign fashion writers were flown in to cover the occasion, in contrast to former years, when the IEI subsidized the trips of journalists.

Local journalists have never really counted for much with the IEI, which owed them a great deal for turning Fashion Week into a major media event and thus attracting the interest of foreign correspondents stationed in Israel. The disdain for the local writers was reflected in the absence of a press room.

Publicity and press relations were not the only areas in which the IEI was subject to criticism. Manufacturers complained bitterly about both the calibre and the paucity of buyers and about the wasteful financial outlay to which they themselves had been subjected. Each company represented in the fashion show that launched the Buyers' Days was charged \$100 per garment, and each had to present five outfits. There were very few buyers present to impress, and the 50-60 who did come, were barely lukewarm in their response.

WITH so much discontent crackling through the showrooms and the corridors, two basic questions are being asked: If things are so bad, why do manufacturers such as Niba, MIF, Dorina, Helen Knits, Gabi Model, Ero, Maquette and Lodzia continue to participate season after season and year after year? Why don't the member companies of the Fashion Centre at the IEI join forces and stage a revolution?

There are two stock replies to the first question. One is that this is a promotional event that has had a temporary setback.

The other reply is far more telling. Participation in Fashion Week or Buyers' Days is the toll exacted from those Israeli companies that want to be included in Israeli group shows abroad. This year, there are three in Germany, two in the U.S. and one in England.

In Dusseldorf, the collection premieres lure thousands of buyers from around the globe and the number who visit the Israeli pavilion is many times greater than the number visiting Israel itself. To forfeit the opportunity to be with the other Israeli exhibitors in Dusseldorf, New York and London borders on industrial suicide.

THE DIRECTOR of the IEI's consumer goods division, Yair (Kaufer) Ofek, says that he has never heard of any coercion in this respect.

But Ofek, who was appointed to his post comparatively recently, may not yet be familiar with some of the unwritten rules. A senior Ministry of Industry and Trade official told The Jerusalem Post last year that companies wanting to take part in last September's Israeli solo show in New York would first have to be on the list of participants in Israel Summer Fashion Week in Jerusalem.

As for rebellion, veteran manufacturers say that reprisals are swift. Anyone who dares to make a fuss too openly is heavily penalized. Veterans at the game tell of being punished by being placed in the worst position, furthest from the public eye at the Dusseldorf show.

That problematic minimum wage

By TSIPPI KUPER

The defeat of a minimum wage bill in the Knesset yesterday and in the cabinet on Sunday provides yet another example of an economic policy conducted at the expense of the working-class poor.

There is an urgent need for a minimum wage law - which was delayed for three months before being voted down this week - to ensure a decent living standard for every working person and to combat the negative work incentive which unemployment insurance constitutes.

Despite the fact that 62 Knesset Members signed the private members bill of Ran Cohen (CRM), it was removed from the agenda by a vote of 34 to 3. Coalition members were constrained to vote with the government against the bill, after Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katsav's own minimum wage proposal was defeated during Sunday's cabinet meeting.

The National Insurance Institute recently published its 1984 survey, which noted "a sharp rise in the percentage of families whose income falls below the poverty line." These are families who can no longer make ends meet on their income from work and who have to resort to welfare.

Katsav's minimum wage proposal, which called for the lowest monthly gross earnings to be 45-50 per cent of the average wage, is indeed liable to raise production costs and lead to inflation.

Any law proposal should therefore include directives for gradual implementation, starting with those sectors which receive the lowest income.

The Treasury and the Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations warn against intervention in a matter which they say is best left to negotiations between the Histadrut and the employers. Since 1964 it has been determined by such labour accords, which the Labour Minister

then applies to the entire market. But there are precedents in other countries for such a move: in the U.S. and Canada the minimum wage is determined by legislation, says Yoram Barzilai, director of the Histadrut's Economic and Social Research Institute.

He says the Histadrut reversed its original stand against legislation because the negotiations failed to satisfy its demands.

The most recent accords set February's minimum wage at a monthly gross NIS 324 (\$216) in the public sector and NIS 291 (\$194) in the private sector - 35.5 and 32 per cent, respectively, of the average wage of NIS 850 (\$567).

Between the signing of trade agreements, the minimum wage level is eroded, and in October it fell to below 30 per cent of the average wage, according to Labour Minister Moshe Katsav.

Little research has been carried out in Israel on the effectiveness of the minimum wage accords. Virtually no complaints have reached the labour courts or the Histadrut about violations of the accords - although it is clear there are widespread violations.

According to Barzilai, almost all the blue-collar workers in the textile industries earn below the minimum, as do most of the workers in the canned food industries. Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tzur, who voted for the bill at Sunday's cabinet meeting, said that textile workers in this country earn less than their counterparts in Taiwan and Korea.

Legislation may improve enforcement of the minimum wage level as violation would then become a criminal offence. In addition, it may give workers the courage needed to press charges against employers. Ran Cohen points out that public institutions would no longer be able to ignore the minimum wage and the Histadrut would have to press charges against offenders.

A recent study by the Economic

and Social Research Institute found that development town industries pay their workers much less than their counterparts receive in the centre of the country.

Cosmetics industry workers in the centre of the country receive on average 64 per cent more than their counterparts in the development towns: a gross monthly salary of NIS 860, compared to NIS 523. In the food industries, workers in the big cities receive some 20 per cent more: they get NIS 847, while workers in development town food industries received only NIS 704 on average.

The Treasury objects to the law proposal on the grounds that it would lead to the closure of plants that cannot withstand the burden of added labour costs, and would therefore create unemployment.

Supporters of the law respond to this on an ideological level. "Factories which pay their workers slave labour and can't afford to pay decent wages deserve to be closed down," says MK Cohen.

Another argument heard by the cabinet on Sunday was that raising the minimum wage to 50 per cent of the country's average would induce other workers to demand pay increases, pushing production costs up, which in turn would lead to price rises and inflation.

Barzilai suggests gradual implementation of a minimum wage, rather than an across-the-board increase. One possibility would be to determine priorities by using NII criteria, such as eligibility for income supplements.

Paradoxically, raising the minimum wage would lead to a rise in the earnings of ministers and their deputies, judges and ministry directors-general, whose salaries are linked to the average wage. This is because as the minimum wage rises it automatically pushes up the level of the national average wage. Hence, the effect on ministers, etc. Helping the poor, it seems, means helping the rich too.

FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

Israel Money Markets March 3, 1986

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES

PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.75% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

| | LAST UPDATED | TAPAS | PAKAM 7-DAY | PAKAM 30-DAY |
|------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------------|
| LEUMI | 3.3 | 6-18% | 7-17% | 6-18% |
| Hapoalim | 20.2 | 8-18% | 13-17% | 8-17% |
| DISCOUNT | 28.2 | 8-17% | 10-17% | 10-17% |
| MIZRAHI | 18.2 | 12-19% | 12-18% | 12-18% |
| FIRST INTL | 20.2 | 8-18% | 8-18% | 8-18% |

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(TAPAS: demand deposit paying daily interest.
PAKAM: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 59 days.)

PATAH - FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (as of March 3)

| | 3-MONTHS | 6-MONTHS | 12-MONTHS |
|-----|----------|----------|-----------|
| USD | 7.125 | 7.125 | 7.250 |
| STG | 11.250 | 10.875 | 10.625 |
| DMK | 3.875 | 3.875 | 3.875 |
| SFR | 3.250 | 3.250 | 3.250 |
| YEN | 4.575 | 4.000 | 4.000 |

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

| COUNTRY | CURRENCY | CHEQUES AND TRANSACTIONS | BANKNOTES | BANK OF ISRAEL Representative Rates |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| U.S.A. | DOLLAR | 1.4854 | 1.4836 | 1.4760 |
| GREAT BRITAIN | STERLING | 2.1014 | 2.1275 | 2.1181 |
| GERMANY | MARK | 0.8602 | 0.8684 | 0.8648 |
| FRANCE | FRANC | 0.2145 | 0.2172 | 0.2161 |
| HOLLAND | GULDEN | 0.5842 | 0.5914 | 0.5886 |
| SWITZERLAND | FRANC | 0.7811 | 0.7908 | 0.7872 |
| SWEDEN | KRONA | 0.2041 | 0.2067 | 0.2055 |
| NORWAY | KRONE | 0.2053 | 0.2118 | 0.2108 |
| DENMARK | KRONE | 0.1788 | 0.1808 | 0.1800 |
| FINLAND | MARK | 0.2882 | 0.2918 | 0.2903 |
| CANADA | DOLLAR | 1.0244 | 1.0371 | 1.0314 |
| AUSTRALIA | DOLLAR | 1.0148 | 1.0274 | 1.0240 |
| SOUTH AFRICA | RAND | 0.7400 | 0.7482 | 0.7440 |
| BELGIUM | FRANC | 0.3203 | 0.3243 | 0.3248 |
| AUSTRIA | SCHILLING | 0.5394 | 0.5510 | 0.5485 |
| ITALY | LIRE | 0.9695 | 0.9815 | 0.9768 |
| JAPAN | YEN | 0.8148 | 0.8249 | 0.8208 |
| JORDAN | DINAR | — | — | 4.028 |
| EGYPT | POUND | — | — | 0.85 |

SUPPLIED BY BANK LEUMI

European Financial Markets

Precious Metals

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------|---------|--------|-------------|--------|
| GOLD: | LONDON | A.M. FX | 339.45 | P.M. FX | 335.60 |
| SILVER: | PARIS | NOON FX | 342.17 | ZURICH P.M. | 336.50 |
| PLATINUM: | LONDON | FX | 575.60 | | |
| PALLADIUM: | LONDON | P.M. | 398.60 | | |
| | | P.M. | 107.25 | | |

FOREIGN CURRENCY CROSS RATES (London 15.30GMT)

| Forward Rates | SPOT | 3 MTHS | 6 MTHS | 12 MTHS |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| POUND STERLING | 1.4375/85 | 107/104 | 156/153 | 270/265 |
| DEUTSCHE MARK | 2.2260/75 | 130/125 | 190/185 | 380/370 |
| SWISS FRANC | 1.8900/15 | 125/118 | 128/120 | 370/360 |
| DUTCH GULDEN | 2.5113/23 | 88/85 | 128/124 | 252/256 |
| FRENCH FRANC | 6.8430/60 | 750/800 | 1150/1225 | 1850/1850 |
| JAPANESE YEN | 179.95/05 | 59/56 | 89/85 | 183/179 |
| ITALIAN LIRA | 1513.25/25 | 3025/3175 | 4200/4400 | 7250/7450 |
| BELGIAN FRANC | 46.580/600 | 21/24 | 25/29 | 33/38 |
| HONGKONG DOLLAR | — | — | — | — |
| S.AFRICAN RAND | 0.5037/47 | 38/31 | 48/43 | 80/70 |
| CANADIAN DOLLAR | — | — | — | — |
| AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR | — | — | — | — |
| SWEDISH KRONA | — | — | — | — |
| NORWEGIAN KRONA | — | — | — | — |
| DANISH KRONA | 8.2160/85 | —500 | —500 | —50/50 |

Formula for determining forward rates:
high/low (eg. 220/210) - deduct from spot price.
low/high (eg. 210/220) - add to spot price.

New York Financial Markets
WALL STREET Closing Prices

| Dow Jones Indices | 1,698.78 | -12.27 | NYSE Highest Volume | 10% | +1% |
|-------------------|----------|--------|---------------------|------|------|
| IND | 788.38 | -2.88 | WESTN AIR | 9 | +1% |
| TRANS | 184.29 | -1.54 | EAST AIR | 151% | +1% |
| UTILS | 130.09 | -0.85 | BANKAMER | 18% | -1% |
| NYSE COMP | 358.78 | +0.25 | OHIO ED | 19% | unch |
| NASDAQ COMP | 218.17 | -1.40 | U CARB WI | 27% | +1% |
| S-P 100 INDEX | 225.42 | -1.50 | MER LYNCH | 41% | +1% |
| S-P COMPOSITE | 256.72 | -0.63 | ATT | 22% | +1% |
| AMEX INDEX | — | — | SPERRY CP | 50% | -1% |

Statistics
NYSE VOL 143,040,250 STOCKS UP 786 DOWN 812
NASDAQ VOL 124,743,200 STOCKS UP 1219 DOWN 822

Comment
WALL STREET STOCKS CLOSE LOWER, BELOW 1700 - Stocks fell sharply as the Dow industrials failed to hold the 1700 level claimed last week, ignoring action in bond and oil markets that normally might have aided in a big rally, traders said. They said the market may be exhausted from its long run. The Dow Jones Industrial Average retreated 12 points to 1687, after closing above 1700 for the first time on Thursday and holding the level Friday despite a five point loss. Declines led advances nine to eight, a relatively small margin considering the weakness of blue chips, as volume fell to 145 million from the 180-190 million level of late last week.

ISRAELI STOCKS Traded in New York:

| NYSE and ASE | Last | Prev. Close | High | Low | Vol ('00s) |
|--------------|------|-------------|------|-----|------------|
| Alliance | — | 1% | — | — | — |
| Am Int'l | 5% | 2% | 5% | 5% | 49 |
| Amrad | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 20 |
| Elscot | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 347 |
| Ez Lavud | 12% | 12% | 12% | 12% | 29 |
| Laser Inds | 13 | 12% | 13 | 12% | 61 |

| Over the counter | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|-----|-----|------------|------|-----|-----|
| | last | bid | ask | | last | bid | ask |
| Bank Leumi | — | 20 | 22 | Interpharm | — | 4% | 4% |
| Elbit | 7% | 7% | 7% | Optrotech | 9% | 9% | 9% |
| ECI Tel. | 8 | 7% | 8½ | Rada | — | 10% | 10% |
| Elron | 6% | 7% | 6% | Sotex | 8% | 8% | 8% |
| Elronics | 14½ | 14 | 14½ | Taro-vit | — | 3% | 3% |
| IDB Bank | — | 46 | 50 | Tevapharm | — | 3% | 3% |
| IS | 4% | 4% | 5% | SPI | 6% | 6% | 6% |

U.S. Money Rates

Prime 9.50%; Broker 8.75%; NY Euros 3 months 7%-7.75% Fed Funds last 7.75%

New York Foreign Exchange

| | DMK | SFR | STG | YEN | CAN |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| YESTERDAY'S CLOSING | 2.2290/05 | 1.8610/20 | 1.4420/40 | 180.10/25 | 1.4200/15 |
| OPENING | 2.2190/05 | 1.8740/50 | 1.4340/50 | 179.75/85 | 1.4240/50 |
| LATEST | 2.2085/95 | 1.8730/45 | 1.4480/90 | 179.05/15 | 1.4259/65 |

Comment
DOLLAR SLIPS IN NEW YORK
The dollar slipped to its lowest levels of the day in thin trading after the closure of the Chicago futures market. The pound benefited from a shortcovering rally, but remained highly vulnerable to further falls. Oil prices are the key factor, with spot Brent crude falling to a record low of \$12.50 a barrel.

Overseas financial data - from Reuters exclusively to The Jerusalem Post.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Indices: | | Turnovers: | | 4.26% fully-linked | | Stable/rises to 3% | | |
| General Share Index | 105.43 | -0.10% | Shares - total | NIS 8,904,300 | 80% linked | Rises to 1% | | |
| Non-Bank Index | 119.58 | +0.08% | Arrangement | NIS 1,953,200 | 90% linked | Stable | | |
| Arrangement | 98.14 | -0.13% | Non-bank | NIS 6,951,100 | Double-linked | Stable | | |
| Insurance | 127.77 | +1.43% | Bonds - total | NIS 4,740,400 | Dollar-linked | Slight rises | | |
| Commerce, Services | 119.18 | +1.87% | Index-linked | NIS 1,889,900 | Admon | Stable/rises to 1% | | |
| Real Estate | 139.11 | +1.01% | Dollar-linked | NIS 2,859,500 | Rimon | Rises to 1% | | |
| Industries | 114.48 | +0.05% | Treasury Bills | NIS 3,448,400 | Gilboa | Rises to 1% | | |
| Textiles | 132.55 | +1.74% | | | For Curr. | denominated | | |
| Metals | 118.60 | +1.77% | | | Treasury Bills | Rises to 3% | | |
| Electronics | 98.19 | -0.48% | | | (monthly yield) | 1.54 - 1.83% | | |
| Chemicals | 111.84 | -1.04% | | | | | | |
| Industrial Invest. | 120.68 | -1.77% | | | | | | |
| Investment Cos. | 127.31 | -0.94% | | | | | | |
| General Bond Index | 98.22 | +0.39% | | | | | | |
| Index-linked Bonds | 98.57 | +0.47% | | | | | | |
| Fully-linked | 98.76 | +0.40% | | | | | | |
| Partially-linked | 97.94 | +0.53% | | | | | | |
| Dollar-linked Bonds | 95.98 | +0.39% | | | | | | |
| Short-term 0-2 yrs | 98.42 | +0.38% | | | | | | |
| Medium-term 2-5 yrs | 98.28 | +0.38% | | | | | | |
| Long-term 5+ yrs | 95.95 | +0.43% | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------|
| Share Movements: | | Arrangement yields: | |
| Advances | 174 (179) | IDB ord. | 13.32% |
| of which 5%+ | 64 (63) | Union 0.1 | 13.56% |
| "buyers only" | 16 (21) | Discount A | 14.08% |
| Declines | 128 (82) | Mazrahi r. | 15.08% |
| of which 5%+ | 33 (14) | Hirshel | 14.08% |
| "sellers only" | 4 (7) | General A | 13.62% |
| Unchanged | 93 (120) | Leumi stock | 13.94% |
| Trading Halt | 48 (50) | Fin. Trade 1 | 12.69% |

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Bond Market Trends: | |
| Index-linked | |
| 3% fully-linked | Rises to 1.5% |

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

| Name | Price | Volume | % | 100NIS change |
|--|------------|----------------------|-------|---------------|
| Commercial Banks | | | | |
| <i>(not part of "arrangement")</i> | | | | |
| Maritime 1 | 986 | 7091 | — | — |
| General non-arr. | 33600 | 180 | -3.2 | — |
| First Int'l | 3400 | 2652 | -4.2 | — |
| FBI | 3280 | 2727 | — | — |
| Commercial Banks | | | | |
| <i>(part of "arrangement")</i> | | | | |
| IDB 1 | 76200 | 167 | -0.8 | — |
| Union 0.1 | 56850 | 80 | -5 | — |
| Discount | 96000 | 96 | — | — |
| Mizrahi | 31020 | 753 | — | — |
| Hapoalim r | 51130 | 1153 | — | — |
| General A | 132000 | 10 | -0.4 | — |
| Leumi 0.1 | 32580 | 1728 | +0.9 | — |
| Fin. Trade | 44600 | — | -1.0 | — |
| Mortgage Banks | | | | |
| Leumi Mort. r | 4120 | 484 | -1.2 | — |
| Dev. Mort. | 930 | 1040 | -3.7 | — |
| Mishkan r | 1820 | 282 | -7.6 | — |
| Tefahot r | 10800 | 45 | +2.9 | — |
| Merav r | no trading | | | |
| Financial Institutions | | | | |
| Agrie C. | 31000 | 5.5 | -8.8 | — |
| Ind. Dev. DD | no trading | | | |
| Ciel Leasing 0.1 | 6200 | 101 | -2.6 | — |
| Insurance | | | | |
| Ararat 0.1 r | 3700 | 330 | +8.8 | — |
| Hanash r | 2817 | 4074 | -0.3 | — |
| Phoenix 0.1 | 12901236 | 0.8 | — | — |
| Haniashmar | 6100 | 122 | -5.4 | — |
| Menorah 1 | 3500 | 69 | -3.7 | — |
| Sahar 1 | 51780 | 101 | -6.1 | — |
| Zion Hold. 1 | 11305 | 50 | — | — |
| Trade & Services | | | | |
| Meir Ezra | 4087 | 548 | +15.0 | — |
| Supersol 2 | 4440 | 680 | — | — |
| Delak r | 4195 | 2974 | — | — |
| Lightstar | 9800 | 218 | +4.9 | — |
| Cold Storage | 934 | 1321 | +10.0 | — |
| Dan Hotels | 3701 | 298 | -0.2 | — |
| Yarden Hotel | 2181 | 72 | +6.3 | — |
| Hilton 1 | 10637 | 63 | +10.0 | — |
| Team 1 | 1820 | 547 | — | — |
| Real Estate, Building and Agriculture | | | | |
| Aporim | 3690 | 1973 | +2.6 | — |
| Elion | 1100 | 1450 | -1.5 | — |
| Africa Int. 0.1 | 37600 | 85 | — | — |
| Dankner | 3100 | 600 | -4.6 | — |
| Pro. & Bldg. | 2570 | 2065 | — | — |
| Baieido 0.1 | 3690 | 53 | +8.1 | — |
| ILDC r | 36900 | 377 | -0.6 | — |
| Rassco r | 3998 | 306 | — | — |
| Mehadrin | 11200 | 190 | -3.0 | — |
| Haderim | 1100 | 2984 | +5.0 | — |
| Industrials | | | | |
| Dubek b | 2610 | 899 | -1.7 | — |
| Pir-Ze 1 | 3598 | 802 | -5.0 | — |
| Sumfrost | 5190 | 100 | -0.2 | — |
| Elita | 14310 | 822 | +8.3 | — |
| Edgar | 5203 | 133 | — | — |
| Argaman r | 5700420 | 1.8 | — | — |
| Deita G | 42701060 | 1.2 | — | — |
| Maquette 1 | 19845 | b.a.2 | +5.0 | — |
| Eagle 1 | 11830 | 198 | — | — |
| Poiget 0.1 | 3600 | 479 | +0.9 | — |
| Schoellneria | 12950 | 253 | -1.6 | — |
| Rogovin | 2850 | 365 | -1.7 | — |
| Urden 0.1 r | 13000 | 367 | — | — |
| Is. Can. Co. 1 | 976 | 663 | -1.2 | — |
| Zurich | 2300 | 1298 | +9.1 | — |
| Pecker Spool | 4590 | 70 | — | — |
| Elbit 3 r | 390000 | 1 | — | — |
| Oil Exploration | | | | |
| Paz Oil Expl. | 10960 | 47 | — | — |
| I.O.E.L. | 1170 | 942 | — | — |
| Abbreviations: | | | | |
| a.s. - <i>advised only</i> | | b. <i>broker</i> | | |
| b. - <i>buyers only</i> | | r. <i>registered</i> | | |

THE JERUSALEM POST

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

Erwin Frankel
Editor

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The minimum wage

A PRIVATE MEMBER'S bill originally supported by 62 Knesset deputies that would set the minimum wage at 45-50 per cent of the country's average wage was shelved yesterday, but on the understanding that the government would within five weeks' time work out a satisfactory bill of its own in the matter.

The issue of the minimum wage is at dispute between the government and parliament, and it divides them both. Last Sunday a clear majority of ministers sided with one of their Likud members - Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, a Liberal, against another, Labour and Social Welfare Minister Moshe Katsav, a Herutnik - in turning down a government initiative to protect the minimum wage by law. Most coalition Knesset members, however, on both the left and the right, favour such legislation, and resent government attempts to dictate its own policy to them.

Minimum wage is the law in a large number of western capitalist countries, but classic capitalist economics is opposed to it on principle. The standard argument is that wages should be determined through the free play of the market, and that the minimum wage is an artificial invention, bound to result in high production costs and in firings and unemployment.

This, essentially, is also Mr. Moda'i's argument. The fact that Israel's government has for years been closely involved in setting the national wage level does not seem to disturb him.

It may, however, seem odd that Israel, a welfare state par excellence, should to this day lack a minimum wage law. But the reason is simple enough: the bargaining strength of the Histadrut was traditionally considered sufficient to protect even the lowest paid groups via labour contracts. Then, too, the Histadrut was not too keen on letting the government - even a Labour government - intervene too much in matters that were better left to bargaining.

For it was through bargaining that the Histadrut could prove its clout - and its indispensability - to its members. Logical indeed: but recent experience has shown the logic to crumble under the weight of economic retrenchment. All wage earners have in the past few months been obliged to tighten their belts, but the poorest among them have had the roughest time merely keeping head above water.

According to Mr. Katsav, the minimum wage dropped to below 30 per cent of average monthly pay last October. Since then no improvement has been reported. Large numbers of workers would have fallen far below the "poverty line" without the NII's income supplements while the wages offered many of the jobless have been no incentive for them to give up their unemployment benefits.

To be sure, there are enterprises in this country whose very existence depends on the payment of starvation wages. If their continued existence is for some reason an absolutely vital national interest, it must be assured directly by the Treasury, and not at the expense of the workers.

It is arguable, of course, and has in fact been argued, that a mandatory minimum wage should preferably be introduced gradually, and in the lowest paying industries in the most underdeveloped areas first. This formula might be acceptable to the Histadrut, and it could form the core of the government's proposal to the Knesset. One thing is clear: ducking the issue won't do. The Knesset will not put up with it, and rightly so.

The great TV mystery

WHAT IS HAPPENING in Television House is beginning to resemble more and more one of the sophisticated mysteries that viewers see occasionally on their screens, whenever these are not strikebound. This is not one of those violent thrillers where the whole place is littered with bodies: this is a genuine whodunit.

A few weeks ago viewers were startled to learn that the Israel Broadcasting Authority was asking for licence fees to be raised to IS 125 a year. Television House claimed very quickly that there is no rise in real terms, but this was, to put it mildly, incorrect. The proposed rise is to the equivalent of \$83, while last year it was \$60, and the year before \$45.

The expense may not be utterly unbearable, but how is it to be justified? Almost every public service is having its budget slashed mercilessly: schools, universities, hospitals, transport, wage-earners and pensioners are all accepting drastic reductions in real terms. Everyone is asking what Television House has done in the past year, and is planning to do in the coming year, that warrants it being an exception and getting so large a rise in its fees.

But now the plot has thickened. Exactly a year ago the IBA got a one-time emergency grant from the hard-hearted Treasury of IS 1.4 b. to pay its January wage-bill. This week, director-general Uri Porat was able to report to the IBA plenum that the IBA was perhaps the only institution in the country that was flush. It had repaid the Treasury its \$6m. debt and expected to have a surplus of \$2m., which will go to development, including \$500,000 for the station Cinderella, the drama department.

This last is a very worthy cause indeed. But perhaps a still worthier one in these hard times is the long-suffering public, which, after all, the IBA with its surplus by patiently watching the advertisements, called service telecasts or sponsorships. It should be possible to retain the licence fee at \$60, and still to produce dramas that would be a worthy addition to Israeli culture.

MINIMUM WAGE

(Continued from Page One)
minimum to 40-45 per cent of the average wage," he said, noting that only 12 per cent of wage-earners get less than 40 per cent of the average wage, and only 15 per cent get less than 45 per cent.

"These are not numbers that could cause an upheaval in the economy," he said, adding that supplementary allowance was no answer, since it was "not moral" that wage-earners should require welfare payments.

But the government thought it preferable to wait for the conclusion of negotiations between the Histadrut and the employers, Katsav said. Opposition members jeered when Katsav said that a government appointed team of MKs discussing the issue with the two sides would report to the Knesset within three or four months. But Katsav said he would be happy if a minimum wage bill were passed by next January.

Parliamentary observers said that the deliberate absenteeism of many Alignment MKs who want to shrug off coalition discipline and support Tebiya's private bill applying Israel law to Judea and Samaria. That bill comes up tomorrow.

Gurdjeff
Ouspensky
Centre
052-78423

Threatening instability

YOSEF GOELL

around the expectation that he will come next week, next month or even next year.

To get back to specifics. Zaafer al-Masri was certainly not an isolated case. There have been 24 assassinations of Palestinian figures in the West Bank and Gaza in the past eight years, by either mainline elements of the PLO, or militant dissidents under its umbrella. If anything can be called a pattern, this surely is one. And all indications are that determined attempts to assassinate anyone even suspected of collusion with the Israeli enemy will continue.

In this context, it is to be regretted that the Israeli occupation authorities were deluded into believing that just because al-Masri's appointment to the mayoralty was believed to have the silent blessings of Yasser Arafat, he was safe from attempts on his life.

'There have been 24 assassinations of Palestinian figures in the West Bank and Gaza in the past eight years...'

There is no possibility of completely assuring the lives of local Palestinians who, while opposing Israel's continued occupation, choose to shoulder the burden of improving the lot of their fellow countrymen. But much more must be done by the Israeli authorities, even at the risk of the proffered official protection tarring the recipient as a collaborator in the eyes of militant fanatics.

At the present time, the most urgent step to take is the rounding up and expelling of all elements in the territories known to be supporters of the Syrian-affiliated elements of the PLO who have taken responsibility for al-Masri's assassination. Such a step may well be possible today, but not next week; only as long as American revulsion and shock over the assassination continues.

OR TAKE the case of Egypt. One of the riskiest trades in the world is that of political prophet. But the risk diminishes considerably when one is prepared to keep on prophesying that, sooner or later, an assassin's

bullet will get Hosni Mubarak. It didn't happen this time. But the probability that attempts at patsches and uprisings will continue to be made in Egypt is as close to 100 per cent as one can get.

That is certainly not to argue that Israel should be interested in the elimination of Mubarak and the replacement of his regime. Whoever comes in his place will certainly be worse for Israel. But there is very little that Israel can do to lessen the probability of such an undesirable event taking place.

Taking the Egyptian demands on Taba seriously, for example, is one of the sillier proposals heard in the past year. It may well be that Israel should not press in the present circumstances for more rapid Egyptian implementation of the normalization of relations - of which an agreement on Taba should be part. But I would suggest that readers of The Jerusalem Post reread one of the most prescient articles ever to appear in a newspaper in this regard. I am referring to Jon Kimche's article "Peace and the Egyptian Volcano," which appeared in these pages on February 23, two days before the outbreak of the Egyptian rebellion last week, in which he wrote of the probability of such uprisings and added:

"It may not seem tragic to some Israelis if Taba were lost to the Egypt of Mubarak. But what if it is lost to an Egypt ruled by military leaders encouraged and supported by militant Islam? Then Taba ceases to be a light-hearted joke and 700 metres of sand, and becomes one of the suburbs of Eilat in militant Egyptian hands."

ONE OF the major achievements of the past year of Prime Minister Peres's "peace offensive" has been the enhancing of Israel's image in Western political opinion, as the party that is ready to go to great lengths to bring peace. We should not delude ourselves into believing, however, that just because we are ready to go to such great lengths, there is any prospect whatsoever of bringing about such a peace in the madness that is the Arab Middle East. Propaganda is important, but it remains propaganda, not reality. And we must calculate our policy steps carefully with an eye mainly on the dismal realities of our region. If peace is virtually impossible to attain now, working to prevent the frequent outbreak of shooting wars is very definitely possible.

What is needed now is a shift of

Dry Bones

IM FRESH OFF A PLANE FROM THE STATES.

MY BELLY IS STILL FULL OF FABULOUS AMERICAN JUNK FOOD.

AND I HAVEN'T HEARD A SINGLE NEWSCAST YET SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.



THE WEATHER HERE IS BEAUTIFUL THE COUNTRY LOOKS GREAT AND MY MIND IS BLANK.



IT'S THE ZIONIST DREAM!

gears in our information approach, especially in the U.S., to drive home the realities of that Arab Middle East in which we live. It is a convenient time to shift into such a campaign because of the impact Arab terrorism has had on the American consciousness and possibly even on European opinion.

It is urgent to do so now because in a short three years there will be a new American president in the White House and a new secretary at the State Department. And if one thinks of repetitive patterns it is a sure thing that, whoever they are, they will succumb to the blandishments of the Arab lobby in the State Department to try their hand at pressing Israel to make major concessions "which alone" could make possible the attainment of a "comprehensive peace" in the Middle East. And such pressures will certainly seek to take off from the procedural concessions made by Peres in the recent aborted "peace initiative."

At the same time that Israel mounts such a major preemptive educational campaign in the U.S., it is even more urgent that we shift gears in our economic policy to begin weaning ourselves away from our near total economic dependence on the U.S., a dependence which can prove excruciating when that new

president sits down in the Oval Office.

Such policy shifts and decisions presume a much greater seriousness and continuity to our foreign policy than has been the case in the past decade and a half, in which hand-mouth was a more apt description of our policy *modus operandi*.

And what this requires, in the absence of one dominant leader at the top to impose such continuity and seriousness, is an effort to forge a foreign policy consensus between the two major parties, which, it may be assumed, will be spelling each other in power in the Israeli politics of the next few years.

In ideology, the two parties are admittedly poles apart. In practice, when one strips away verbiage and style, there is very definitely the basis for such a consensus around Middle East realities. Creative political leadership at this time, should mean that responsible leaders in both parties - Yes, Virginia, there are responsible elements in the Likud, just like there are fantasists in Labour - must work at overcoming the elements of dissension and working for a unity of purpose on the part of Israel towards an extremely threatening outside reality.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

READERS' LETTERS

JEWISH AFFAIRS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir - We were extremely pleased with the new editorial policy of The Jerusalem Post to give greater weight to international Jewish affairs via its regular new feature page and extended high quality coverage. Representing a movement of over two million Jews, I believe that events which shape people's destiny evolve as much from within the Jewish body politic as from those external events which usually dominate the attention of the media.

The various articles by Moshe Kohn are clear and concise and a credit to your newspaper.

Thank you for helping us look at ourselves, and keep up your good work.

FRANKLIN D. KREUTZER,
President, The United Synagogue of America
Jerusalem.

NO HANDRAILS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir - Looking a few days ago at your picture of the entrance to the new symphony hall in Jerusalem and the majestic flight of steps leading to it, I noticed that our architects once again forgot the handrails - so important for the elderly and the invalid.

It is really so difficult to think of the handicapped when planning a public building?

Y. K. UNGER
Haifa.

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir - I refer to your editorial of February 20, "Anarchy in TV House," which I regret to say is misleading.

In this editorial, you write: "Seven years ago, they (the Likud) introduced the principle of politicization of the IBA and of its director-general," and "The directors-general were chosen for their political views rather than their technical qualifications."

People should remember the saying about the mote in one's eye. The facts are incorrect and the accusations unfounded. The director-general of the IBA must be a journalist, since most of his decisions involve journalistic values. My predecessor in the job, Yosef Lapid, is an experienced and well-known journalist from the top ranks of Ma'ariv. The present director-general came to the job after almost 30 years of press work in various fields, including 24 years at Yediot Aharonot and three as media adviser to the prime minister, in which capacity I acquired experience at the highest level of international communications, both in the printed and the electronic media.

Thus the nomination was not a political one; but the claim that it was political was definitely politically motivated.

As a matter of fact, the law which your editorial claims was breached is a bad law, which provokes jurisdictional conflict between the professional management and the public

ENDING ANARCHY AT TV HOUSE

institutions which are supposed to supervise it and which are political ones. This law results in jurisdictional disputes and distorted work procedures, and this is what caused the anarchy. The solution is not to change the members or the management, but to change the system, which is faulty. Ever since the present management took over, it has asked for changes in the law. This request has the open support of the minister in charge of implementing the Broadcasting Authority Law, Yitzhak Navon, and the support of the Knesset Education Committee, which has passed more than one motion in favour of correcting the defects of the present law. But all to no avail. As soon as this request is brought up at the political level, which is decisive in the matter (and this applies to all parties), somebody always torpedoed it, for one partisan reason or another.

All the phenomena which outraged your editorial writer have been in evidence since the IBA was established 18 years ago. It must be his selective memory which impelled him to remember only the last seven years, as if prior to that, in the days of the former directors-general, there had been no strikes, no blackouts, no technical difficulties, no sabotage, no organizational aberrations: these phenomena have always existed and were passed on from one management to the next.

In the present situation, even the

greatest genius cannot end the anarchy at TV House, unless he is endowed with magic powers to change the party structure of the Knesset, which is the only body which can change the law, and thus the situation.

As far as I am concerned, I am doing the best I can to deal with the real problems of the IBA for the good of its workers, its viewers and its listeners. It is a pity that an important newspaper like yours not only does not help, but puts spokes in our wheels by mistaken reports which induce others into error.

URI PORAT
Director General,
Israel Broadcasting Authority
Jerusalem.

Mr. Porat fails to mention that the predecessors of Yosef Lapid and himself did not come from newspapers, but from radio and television.

Obviously, experience in Ma'ariv and Yediot Aharonot does not qualify a person to be director-general of the IBA as much as experience in the two media that the IBA controls. Nor does he mention that both he and Lapid had adopted very strong, one-sided political attitudes in their journalism, which their predecessors had not displayed in their previous posts.

The Broadcasting Law may have weaknesses requiring amendment, as Porat says, but there is nothing wrong with its spirit - to create an authority independent of government or political control or pressures. It is this spirit that has not been observed. - Ed. J.P.

PENFRIENDS

MARIAN GARLAND (51), of Flat 17, Rosehill House, Peppard Road, Emmer Green, Reading, Berkshire, England, hopes to visit Israel one day and would like to have an Israeli penfriend in the meantime.

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